



match

weekly



**Luther
Blissett
exclusive!**

**AC MILAN'S NEW STAR IN COLOUR
'HE'S NOT ENGLAND CLASS' — ALLAN EVANS**

**£100 PROGRAMME BONANZA ● GRAHAM ROBERTS'
PRIVATE LIFE ● THE NEW PRICE OF TOP SOCCER**

STAR VIEW

No 13 Luther Blissett

THE inclusion of Luther Blissett in the England team raised more than a few eyebrows last season.

His shock £1 million transfer from Watford to Italian club AC Milan raised even more.

With just one season of First Division football — albeit fruitful in terms of goals — under his belt, the questions were asked:

Has he proved himself good enough for the England side — following in the wake of such tried and tested players as Paul Mariner and Kevin Keegan?

Is he worth that much money?

Will he become an Italian hero or an expensive flop against the packed and well-drilled defences abroad?

Aston Villa's respected Scottish international centre-half Allan Evans pulls no punches as he compares Blissett alongside international rival Tony Woodcock of Arsenal in the final part of our fascinating 'Star View' series — the feature that's had everyone talking.

LUTHER Blissett is not England class. He misses far too many chances for an international striker.

And playing in Italy, where goal opportunities are few and far between, will not help his England career.

He will find it very difficult out there against some of the most well organised defences and he must improve his finishing to survive.

I know he ended the season as the leading scorer in Division One, renowned world-wide as probably the toughest League, but he should have scored more than the

29 goals he got.

A top-class striker probably puts away one in every three or four chances, but Luther's average must have been well below that.

He gets himself into very good positions and creates a lot of openings, but he seems to lack composure in front of goal.

He scorned a lot of chances last season — simple ones at that — and Luther himself admitted that his finishing was not up to scratch.

Of course it was on the strength of his goalscoring exploits that Luther pushed himself into the England reckoning last season and he collected a hat-trick on his

Blissett

Luther Blissett, the leading scorer in the English First Division last season, but Allan Evans says: "He won't score anywhere near as many goals in Italy."



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FRONT COVER:

West Brom striker Cyrille Regis

takes up a near-post position

for an Albion corner against

West Ham.

v Tony Woodcock

international debut against Luxembourg.

But while that's bound to look impressive in the record books, you have to remember it was against lowly opposition and he should really have scored five or six goals.

His biggest asset is his explosive pace and his ability to run at defences and take people on. He's a big strong lad and difficult to knock off the ball when he's in full flight.

He's probably at his best when defenders are caught square and the ball is played over the top for him to run on to — a tactic Watford used to good effect last season.

HOW THEY SCORED

BLISSETT		WOODCOCK
7	Shooting	8
7	Ball control	9
8	Vision	8
8	Heading	6
9	Speed	8
8	Teamwork	8
8	Stamina	7
7	Tackling back	6
7	Temperament	8
7	Goal sense	9
76	TOTAL	77
100	Maximum	100

blasted

'He's not England class' says Allan Evans

In fact Watford's long-ball style, which came in for a lot of unjustified criticism, suited him down to the ground but he'll find it very different in Italy where the build-up is slower and more deliberate.

I played against Luther on a few occasions last season — in both League and cup matches — and he wasn't very effective against our well-marshalled defence.

In the games at Villa Park I didn't find him too difficult to mark and managed to close him down quite well.

But in the League match at Vicarage Road it was a different story and he proved quite a handful. On a heavy pitch he used his pace well and once he turned away was almost impossible to catch.

In addition to his speed, one other thing which impresses me about him is the amount of work he gets through.

Unlike a number of strikers he does more than his fair share of tackling-back. His supreme fitness will stand him in good stead next year in Italy.

I was very surprised however when he decided to leave Watford and sign for AC Milan after just one season in the top flight.

I felt he perhaps should have stayed in England to gain more experience before venturing abroad.

I hope the lad does well in the Italian First Division, but it will take him time to adapt to the new

style of play and I can't see him scoring anything like the number of goals he got over here.

After a while, however, playing on the Continent could improve him as a player and I think that was certainly the case with Arsenal's Tony Woodcock who spent a couple of seasons in Germany with Cologne.

I can remember him in his early days at Nottingham Forest and I felt then he had an enormous amount of potential.

He was quick, had great control



Allan Evans pulls no punches when he says: "Luther's not England class."



Tony Woodcock — too inconsistent for an international striker.

and a good left foot. At the time, he was playing up front alongside Villa's Peter Withe and I think that brought the best out of him.

He scored a lot of goals when he first came onto the scene and although he hasn't yet lived up to expectations at international level I think he could go on to greater things next season.

He is a very awkward player to mark because he is so quick and elusive... a bit like Kenny Dalglish in the way he shields the ball and turns his man in an instant.

He is also a fairly lethal finisher and tucks half-chances away... that's probably his greatest asset.

There are one or two aspects of his game which he needs to brush up on, however. His heading ability is not quite up to scratch and I don't think he battles as hard as he should either.

If a defender is doing a good, tight marking job on him he tends to drift out of the game without giving it his best shot.

He is also a little inconsistent and tends to blow hot and cold — one week he's brilliant, the next you won't see him — and that's not the sign of a true international player.

In the games he has played for England I don't think he has really showed his club form and I believe that's because he hasn't had the right players alongside him up

front.

Tony needs a big man with him to act as a target man who he can feed off... like Peter Withe during his Forest days.

His best game for England was probably the European Championship game in Greece where he scored two goals. On that occasion he played up front with Paul Mariner and the two seemed to work well together.

I think if Bobby Robson is going to include Tony in his side he needs to play a big man with him. And I still feel that Peter Withe is the best man for the job.

Peter proved last season that he still has a lot to offer and showed what a good target man he is. If he was to play alongside Tony I don't think it would take them long to rekindle the partnership they once had at Forest.

● Allan Evans was talking to Smith.

● 'Star View' will be back exciting difference at the new season — don't only in 'Match'.

● BRITISH EX
COLOUR PICT
LUTHER BLIS
NEW AC MI
Page 29!



Billy Bonds — special.

RELEGATED Chesterfield have re-signed former Scottish international goalkeeper Jim Brown, who has been in America for three years.

And Newcastle have paid an initial £20,000 to Bristol Rovers for Welsh goalkeeper Martin Thomas, who was on loan to them towards the end of last season. The Second Division side will make further payments if he wins a full Welsh cap.

PLAY ON, BONZO!

BILLY Bonds will be 37 in September and the West Ham skipper expects to celebrate his birthday in the same way he's marked the last 16 — by playing in the Hammers' first team.

"My present contract doesn't expire until the end of next season and, at the moment, there are no doubts in my mind that I'll keep playing until at least then," says battling Billy.

"When you get to my age, it would be foolish to look too far ahead. You've got to take things very much as they come. But at the moment I feel good enough for another season."

With Trevor Brooking and Frank Lampard having signed new one-year contracts, Billy knows the references to the West Ham 'veterans' will surface again.

Contribution

But, as he points out: "As long as we're fit enough to play, and the boss is happy with our contribution to the side, why shouldn't we carry on?"

"People often justify introducing youngsters into a side by saying that if they are good enough they are old enough. Why shouldn't the same kind of maxim apply to older players? If they're good enough, they're young enough."



"He doesn't stop whittling until the new season starts!"

Billy still remains a tremendously popular character at Upton Park. "The man is a professional in every sense of the word," insists manager John Lyall. "It doesn't concern me whether Billy will be 27, 37 or 47 next birthday — he'll have a place in my side for as long as he wants."

"People wrote him off at the end of the 1981-82 season when he suffered a bout of yellow jaundice. And, to be fair, I suppose that would have meant the end for 99 per cent of footballers in Billy's position."

"But 'Bonzo' is special. He shrugged that off as if it was nothing at all, and bounced back to play as well as ever. Take my word for it, there's still a lot of football left in Billy Bonds yet."

THE TEAM'S ON SONG

TEAM America have had more than their share of problems off the field, but more than 50,000 turned up at my former abode, the RFK Stadium in Washington, for the visit of Fort Lauderdale Strikers and the famous pop group the Beach Boys. The question was, did they turn up to watch or to listen?

Either way, the day was a success with Team America winning in a shoot-out.

FORMER Luton and Manchester City striker Ron Futcher is back in the States after spending a month at Southampton last season.

Signs are that he is at last controlling his temper which cost him a five-game suspension and a 1,000 dollars fine after being ejected twice for fighting last season when playing with the Portland Timbers.

FORMER Wolves goalkeeper Phil Parkes, who played with non-League Worcester last season, is back in America following top form for Oklahoma

City in the American Soccer League.

The low point for him was when he was sent off at Dallas, but since then the team has won two out of the last three matches, so he's hoping for better things.

RAY Evans, the former Fulham and Stoke full-back, continues to impress with Seattle Sounders.

He has only missed one game since joining them before the start of last season, and although much of his play has been overshadowed by striker

Peter Ward, his value to the team is beginning to get the recognition it deserves.

IT'S not long since Phil Woosnam left the North American League scene, but perhaps the directive threatening clubs with fines if they use the offside trap, pass the ball back to the goalkeeper from 35 yards or if midfielders hold the ball for longer than three seconds, had more than a little to do with that exit.

I'm sure even Phil, a fierce promoter of the now abandoned 35-yard line and the shoot-out decision, wouldn't have agreed with them.

Ken Furphy's American Up-date



TREVOR'S PLEASURE IRELAND

FORMER Manchester United and Northern Ireland star Trevor Anderson is still going strong with Irish League Champions Linfield.

As the Belfast part-timers prepare for one of the biggest games in their history — against Portuguese giants Benfica in the European Cup — Trevor says: "I've no regrets about turning my back on English football."

When he was released by Peterborough in 1979, the 32-year-old winger turned down tempting offers from Cardiff and Carlisle to return home to Belfast and take a job in the city hospital's wages and salaries department.

He says: "I enjoyed my stay in England but wasn't sad to leave. I'm now playing for pleasure. There's no pressure on me any more."

■ A UNIQUE coaching scheme to boost the skills of teenage footballers has been announced by Weatherseal Double Glazing in conjunction with Second Division Oldham.

Oldham have agreed that subject to the best player being of high enough standard, he will be offered an apprenticeship with the club.

Schools will be invited to nominate groups of five players aged between 14 and 16 to go to Oldham's Boundary Park for coaching under the watchful eyes of manager Joe Royle and coach Billy Urmson.

REVENGE!

BRIGHTON are promised an early chance to avenge their FA Cup Final defeat at the hands of Manchester United.

Ron Atkinson's expensive 'Red Devils' travel to the Goldstone Ground for a pre-season friendly on August 9 and 'Seagulls' fans will be eager to see fortunes reversed following their 4-0 Cup Final Replay beating.

But that's just one of the intriguing close-season clashes.

Portsmouth — aiming to take the Second Division by storm next season — test their mettle against super Spurs on the same night in a match sure to bring fans flocking to Fratton Park.

Later in the month, there are some cracking clashes in Scotland.

On August 13, Premier Division Champions Dundee United take on West Ham and Cup Winners Cup holders Aberdeen face Arsenal — the latter giving Scottish fans their first glimpse of former Celtic hero Charlie Nicholas in his new 'Gunnings' gear.

And it's derby day in England with Birmingham opposing Aston Villa at St Andrews — 'Blues' boss Ron Saunders hoping for an early victory over his old club.

There are a couple of testimonial matches thrown in for good measure.

Aberdeen are the visitors in a game for former skipper Martin Buchan on August 17. Martin was signed from 'The Dons' by Tommy Docherty for £125,000 in February 1972.

He made over 350 League appearances and led the club to three FA Cup Finals — including the 2-1 win over Liverpool in 1977. He was released on a free transfer at the end of last season.

Spurs former manager Bill Nicholson, who was in charge when the proud 'Cockerels'

Brighton plan to get even for Cup Final trouncing . . .

completed the League and Cup double in 1960-61, is honoured with a testimonial against London neighbours West Ham at White Hart Lane on August 21. Here's your guide to the important dates:

July 24 — Parkway Clayton v Stoke, kick-off 3pm.
July 26 — Wokingham Town v Stoke, 7.30pm.
August 1 — Southend v West Ham, 7.30pm.
August 2 — Hertford v Spurs, 7.30pm.
August 3 — Telford v Everton, 7.30pm.
August 4 — Enfield v Spurs, 7.30pm.
August 6 — Brentford v Spurs, 3pm; Walsall v Everton, 3pm.
August 8 — Torquay v Aston Villa, 7.30pm.
August 9 — Portsmouth v Spurs, 7.30pm; Brighton v Man. Utd, 7.30pm.
August 10 — Bournemouth v Southampton, 7.30pm; Plymouth v Aston Villa, 7.30pm; Brentford v West Ham, 7.45pm.
August 12 — Oswestry v Stoke, 7.30pm; Brighton v Spurs, 7.30pm.
August 13 — Birmingham v Aston Villa, 3pm; Hearts v Leicester, 3pm; Dundee United v West Ham, 3pm; Reading v Watford, 3pm; Aberdeen v Arsenal, 3pm.



Former Manchester United skipper Martin Buchan waves goodbye to the Old Trafford fans with a testimonial match against his old club, Aberdeen, on August 17.

August 15 — Shrewsbury v Stoke, 7.30pm; St Johnstone v Leicester, 7.30pm.
August 16 — Grimsby v Norwich, 7.30pm; Swindon v Watford, 7.30pm; Celtic v Spurs, 7.30pm; Crystal Palace v Q.P.R., 7.30pm.
August 17 — Dundee Utd v Spurs, 7.30pm; Man. Utd v Aberdeen, 7.30pm (Martin Buchan Testimonial); Portsmouth v West Ham, 7.30pm.
August 18 — Colchester v Watford, 7.30pm.
August 19 — Sunderland v Middlesbrough, 7.30pm; Barnsley v Leicester, 7.30pm; Oldham v Everton, 7.30pm.
August 20 — Cambridge v Norwich, 3pm; Oxford v Watford, 3pm; Portsmouth v Arsenal, 3pm; Chelsea v Q.P.R., 3pm.
August 21 — Spurs v West Ham, 3pm (Bill Nicholson Testimonial).

U2 CAN LOOK LIKE PLAYERS!

NO, Manchester United's Steve Coppel and Arsenal striker Tony Woodcock haven't quit football for a career in the pop world. But they do bear uncanny resemblances to two members of the group U2.

Sixteen-year-old Desmond Robinson from Deptford London spotted the likeness and says: "Bono, the group's lead singer looks like Steve while bass player Adam Clayton strongly resembles Tony."

Do you agree with Desmond and have you seen any other footballing look-alikes? If so, write to: 'Match Chat', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DZ. Please include a picture of the look-alike.



Steve Coppel.



Bono.



Tony Woodcock.



Adam Clayton.

MATCH CHAT

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

■ **FORMER** Liverpool full-back Chris Lawler has returned to the Anfield fold as reserve team coach.

Chris, who held the number two spot before Phil Neal's arrival, has been coaching in Norway.

DID YOU KNOW?

MANCHESTER United's £2,282,007 loss in season 1981-82 was the biggest any Football League club has suffered, while Nottingham Forest's £1,258,000 in 1979-80 stands as the record profit.

AMID their promotion triumph Cardiff won't wish to be reminded of a painful truth. Since the war, they have the worst FA Cup record of any team in the League. In the last 37 seasons they have won a mere 22 ties.

FOURTH Division Hartlepool have been involved in more sending off cases during the last six seasons than any other League club. The number totals 36 — 19 of their own players and 17 from opposing teams.

THE PRICE OF STAR SOCCER

HOW much will it cost to watch your favourite team next season? How does it compare with last season and the prices at other grounds? 'Match' provides the answers with an exclusive guide to Division One entrance fees . . .

WHAT A BARGAIN!

FA CUP winners Manchester United may be the most expensive team in the country, but they are the cheapest to watch.

And sections of the Old Trafford faithful will be paying even less for the privilege of seeing the likes of England skipper Bryan Robson, Steve Coppell and Frank Stapleton in action next season. The price of the cheapest stand seat has been lowered by 40p to £2.60.

The club have increased the standing price at the famous Stretford End but, at £2, it's still among the best value in the First Division.

For the second year running, Sunderland have reduced the price of their cheapest seats in an effort to entice the fans back to Roker Park. Two years ago it would have cost you £4.50 to watch the North East giants. Now you can get in for £3.20.

Merseyside clubs Liverpool and Everton have both increased terrace charges by 10p but it still only costs £2 to watch 'The Reds' and 'The Toffeemen'.

At the other end of the scale, if you really like to splash out and watch the game in comfort, you can spend £9 for the best stand seat at White Hart Lane.

But if you're not really into such luxury, you can still watch the former FA Cup winners from a seat for as little as £4.50 or stand for £2.20. The club have reduced the terrace charge by 20p.

Birmingham, who narrowly missed relegation last season, Southampton and Luton, along with newly-promoted QPR and Leicester, will be the most expensive sides to watch from the terraces. The price is £2.50.

The two promoted clubs have cashed in on their new status by increasing their terrace admission charges, while Wolves — on the verge of bankruptcy last year — are pegging their prices at Molineux despite going up.

Arsenal splashed out more than £600,000 to bring superstar Charlie Nicholas down from Scotland and to help pay the enormous transfer fee, they have increased their terrace charges by 20p and the price of their cheapest seats from £3 to £3.50.

United chop admission charges



Bryan Robson — watching him at Old Trafford gives fans the best value for money in the First Division.

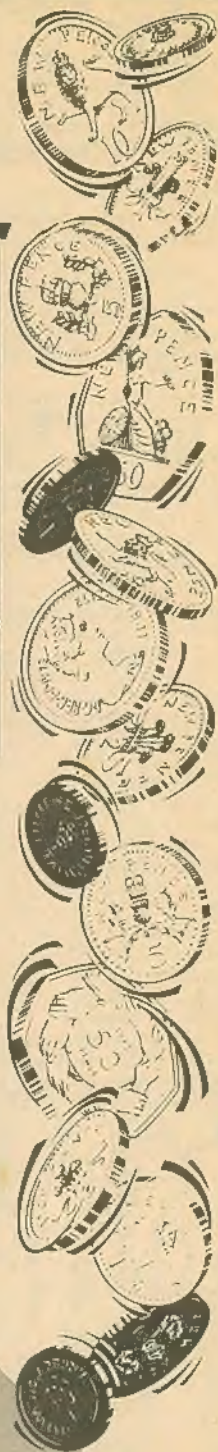
	STANDING	INCREASE ON LAST SEASON	CHILDREN	CHEAPEST SEATS	INCREASE ON LAST SEASON	DEAREST SEATS
ARSENAL	2.20	+20p	1.10	3.50	+50p	6.50
ASTON VILLA	2.00	—	1.00	4.00	+1.00	5.00
BIRMINGHAM	2.50	+50p	1.25*	3.00	+50p	5.00
COVENTRY (all seats) from 2.00 to 5.00						
EVERTON	2.00	+10p	—	4.00	+20p	4.00
IPSWICH	2.00	—	1.00	4.00	—	5.00
LEICESTER	2.50	+50p	—	3.50	—	5.00
LIVERPOOL	2.00	+10p	1.40	3.40	+20p	4.00
LUTON	2.50	—	1.50*	4.00	—	5.00
MAN. UTD	2.00	+20p	1.00	2.60	-40p	4.10
NORWICH	2.20	+20p	1.00	3.00	+50p	5.00
NOTT'M FOR.	2.00	—	1.00	3.00*	—	5.00
NOTTS CO.	2.00	—	1.00*	4.00	—	5.00
Q.P.R.	2.50	+20p	1.50	4.00	—	6.00
SOUTHAMPTON	2.50	+30p	—	Not yet finalised		
STOKE	2.00	+20p	1.00*	3.00	+30p	4.00
SUNDERLAND	2.10*	+10p	1.30	3.20	-30p	3.70
TOTTENHAM	2.20	-20p	1.10	4.50	—	9.00
WATFORD	2.30*	+30p	—	3.50	+50p	6.00
WEST BROM	2.00	—	—	2.80	—	4.50
WEST HAM	2.30	+10p	1.00	4.50	+10p	6.50
WOLVES	2.00	—	1.00	4.00	—	5.00

*Children's price at Birmingham only applies to Junior Blues members; Children's price at Luton only applies to home supporters; Seats priced at £1.50 are available to children at Nottingham Forest if accompanied by an adult or Junior Reds member; Children's price at Notts County only applies to Junior Magpie members; Children's price at Stoke only applies if accompanied by an adult and there are children's concessions on seating; Entrance to the terracing along the side of the pitch at Sunderland costs £2.30; Entrance to the covered terracing and visitors enclosure at Watford costs £2.80.

Coventry fans sat and watched favourites like Danny Thomas, Garry Thompson, Gary Gillespie and Les Sealey last season and they'll be able to watch manager Bobby Gould's completely new team for exactly the same price. Seats will again range from £2 to £5.

The price of their team getting into Europe for the first time in their history is going to cost Watford fans. The club have increased their cheapest seat price by 50p.

Right: Leicester midfielder Bobby Smith — it's going to cost Filbert Street fans more to watch him in the First Division next season



THE name's Bond, John Bond — the manager with the golden tongue.

But it's his licence to thrill that has tempted former England striker Kevin Reeves to team up with him for the fourth time in his up and down career.

Following his £100,000 move from Manchester City, Kevin declared:

"I've played my best football under John Bond's guidance and I like his style. His ideas are based on attack."

The pair first worked together at Bournemouth. Kevin followed his 'boss' to Norwich and then, three years ago, the manager forked out £1 million to have his protégé join him at Manchester City.

Last season, however, was a disaster for the Maine Road club. Fortunes nosedived, John Bond resigned and City were relegated to Division Two.

But now the two are re-united once more — this time at Burnley, themselves also relegated last season.

And despite the prospect of Third Division football next season, Kevin is

eagerly awaiting the fresh start his three-year contract at Turf Moor will provide.

"I'm delighted to have sorted everything out and the fact I've signed a three-year deal should work out well for everyone.

"The club, having paid out a six-figure fee for me obviously want to be able to keep me for a reasonable period of time and from my point of view it gives me some security.

"Now I just can't wait for the new season to kick off.

"Around this time of year, all the players are longing to get back and, being with a new club and under a new set-up makes it a particularly exciting challenge.

"If we can just make a good start next season I'm sure it will lift everyone."

Burnley forward Derek Scott, for one, is convinced the signing of the former £1 million striker will be the key to the club's bold bid to return to the Second Division at the first attempt.

"With the signing of Kevin and his

former Manchester City team-mate Tommy Hutchison, it looks as though the club mean business in trying to get straight back up.

"When you consider that Kevin is an England international, and rated in the £1 million class three years ago, he must be a good buy.

"He's a quality player and should prove a very valuable asset to the club who are hoping to get back in the big time under new boss John Bond.

"There's no doubt that linking up with his former boss was a big consideration for Kevin and I'm sure he'll adjust to the Third Division.

"He tasted life in the lower divisions when he first started out with Bournemouth so he knows what it's all about. He realises how rough it can be at times."

Derek, the man who scored the goal that toppled Liverpool in the Milk Cup Semi-Final, second-leg at Turf Moor last season, is looking forward to Kevin forming a profitable partnership up front with Northern Ireland international Billy Hamilton.

"If Kevin operates as an orthodox

striker by hanging around the penalty area to pick up the knock-downs from big Billy, then I'm sure he'll finish the season with a handy total of goals.

"I know he struggled to score goals during his spell with Manchester City but on the occasions I saw him, he tended to work behind the front men."

Derek actually played alongside Kevin in England Youth trials about seven years ago.

"He was with Bournemouth and I felt then he was a good player," recalls Derek.

Kevin Bond, one of the players left with the task of restoring former glories to ailing giants Manchester City, is equally sure the new Burnley star will shine at Turf Moor.

He told 'Match': "Kevin's departure is a great loss to us but such is the financial situation at the club that they couldn't afford to turn the offer down."

"People have been saying that Kevin has lost his way since he signed for City three years ago but I don't go along with that.

"The team as a whole hasn't done well for a couple of seasons and that

BACK WITH BOND

'MATCH' spotlights the shock transfer of former £1 million player Kevin Reeves to Third Division Burnley.

Left: Kevin Reeves — linking up with John Bond for the fourth time.

Below: John Bond — turning on the style.

obviously didn't help him.

"I still believe he's as good as he was a few years ago and regard him as a marvellous player.

"Of course, at Burnley, he will once again be working for my father. They work well together and I'm sure he'll do a good job for him."

WINNERS!

THE pot of gold at the end of Match Weekly's super 'Treasure Trail' competition has been claimed... and the lucky winner is 11-year-old A. T. Leggatt of Nailsea, Bristol.

He wins a super Sinclair Spectrum home computer complete with football manager program!

The following twenty readers have each won a pocket radio in the final poster poster competition — each having correctly identified Chelsea's Joey Jones.

Malcolm Bulmer, York; Anne-Marie White, Ilford; Stephen Critchlow, Chandle Hulme; Duncan Rhymes, Chelmsford; Carl Yates, Swansea; M. Radnedge, Shirehampton; Christopher Woolgar, Selsey; Keith Taylor, Thirsk; Christopher Haywood, Sheffield; Paul Yates, Sheffield; Mark Attwood, Pershore; Mark Burton, Cwmbran; Karen Braithwaite, Coventry; Robert Bampton, Hampton; Chris Hewett, Pottishall; A. Wright, Lymington; P. W. Richards, Liverpool; Philip Swales, Huntingdon; Ian Johnson, Great Yarmouth; Amos Reave, London.

The following 30 readers have each won a pack of programmes:

Graig Barker, Rowlands Gill; Roger Maplothe, Peterborough; Leon McCuskey, Kingsway; Duncan Milner, Peterborough; C. Talbot, Gainsborough; M. Cronin, Epsom; Wesley McAlees, Co Down; Jason Bloxham, Farnham; Robert Jesson, Southport; Philip Matthews, Bromley; Graeme Hewson, Newcastle; Dean Hutchinson, Bicester; Andrew Smedley, Doncaster; Robert Ball, Waltham Cross; Simon Hamilton, Stevenage; Ian Coe, Gt Welnetham; Ella Brett, Huntingdon; Matthew Boville, St Albans; Andrew Parker, Benfleet; Mark Yabsley, Northwood; Martin Carr, London; Andrew Jones, Farnborough; Steven Pell, Chesterfield; John Hutton, Belfast; Stephen Newman, Ashford; Philip Solly, Winchester; Graham Allan, Ramford; Nicholas Angus, Aylesbury; Richard Turner, Southgate; Lee Ford, Gravesend.

The four mystery grounds featured along the Treasure Trail were: Victoria Ground (Stoke); Baseball Ground (Derby); Carrow Road (Norwich); Stamford Bridge (Chelsea).

THE lucky winner of the 'Spot the Difference' competition which appeared in the July 9 issue of 'Match' is Mark Mitchell of Wimbledon, London, and he wins a place at a McVie's United Bobby Moore Soccer School!

Everyone who entered the competition will receive a picture of former England skipper Bobby Moore with the World Cup.



by Colin Murphy

6 NEXT season is going to be a very severe test for Lincoln.

Since coming up from the Fourth Division in 1981, we have missed out on promotion to the Second Division two years running.

It would be very easy for us to let things slip, but we have got to try and keep the momentum going and maintain the high standards we have set.

The biggest problem that faces us — and what has probably denied us promotion in the past — is the size of our first team squad.

We had only 14 players last season and didn't have the money to buy replacements when we were hit by injuries.

In fact, at one stage, I was in the position where I was having to play apprentices — and on one occasion a schoolboy — in the first team ... not the most desirable state of affairs.

What is more frustrating is that each year we have to sell our best player so the club can survive financially.

And this close season, defender Trevor Peake went to Coventry for the same sum ... that's obviously going to make things harder for us next season.

But if I can strengthen the squad with a couple of shrewd buys, I'm sure we can make a strong challenge for promotion again this season.

There is still a lot of spirit at the club and the players are looking forward to the new campaign with optimism. Let me introduce them to you ...

DAVID FELGATE: A very promising young 'keeper I bought from Bolton for £25,000 a few seasons ago. He's played over 100 League games for us and despite being in the lower divisions, he has forced his way into the Welsh international squad on numerous occasions.

A big strong lad — he's 6ft 2ins tall — he deals with crosses very well and breathes confidence. He performed well last season when he kept a number of clean sheets and was named in the Division Three side in the 'Player of the Year' awards ... a player with a very bright future.

GORDON SIMMONITE: I first saw him a couple of years ago when he played for Boston United in the Alliance League and he impressed me immensely. He went to Blackpool for quite a high fee but I signed him for just £6,000 towards the end of last year.

At the time, we needed another back four player to add stability to the defence and he has done just that. He is a good steady defender with a lot of pace and likes to get forward ... an excellent buy for the club.

PHIL NEALE: One of our

longest serving players, Phil is also an excellent cricketer and is the captain of Worcestershire CC this season. He is an attacking full-back who links up well with the midfield and front men and can cause problems for any defence.

With the cricket and football seasons overlapping, we do face a problem with Phil who usually misses a few games at the beginning and end of each campaign. But in between, he does a great job for us. Because of his love for cricket, football

takes second place which is a great pity because I feel he has the ability to become a First Division player.

STEVE THOMPSON: A £15,000 buy from non-League Boston United, he is a vital player in the heart of our defence. He's a big strong lad who's hard in the tackle and good in the air. He has been a very consistent performer in the two and a half years that he has been at Lincoln and he's also proved his worth at set-pieces from which he scores

quite a few goals.

DAVID CARR: He can play anywhere in the back four or midfield and is a great asset to the side. I bought him from Luton for £15,000 four years ago and since then he's played at right-back, left-back, centre-half and in a central midfield role with equal efficiency.

His ability to play anywhere has perhaps been to his detriment because he has never been allowed to settle in one position ... a manager tends to



LINCOLN CITY just missed out on promotion to Division Two last season and now eagerly await the chance to make amends next term.

Manager Colin Murphy talks exclusively about the players he hopes can bring success to Sincil Bank in 'My Team' — the series that gets to the heart of the matter.

Colin Murphy on the hot line — "If we can strengthen the squad with a couple of shrewd buys, I'm sure we can make a strong challenge for promotion again."

MURPHY'S

Phil Neale — "a pity cricket comes first because he has the ability to become a First Division player."



Glenn Cockerill — "we turned down an offer of £130,000 for him on transfer deadline day."



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My Team

LINCOLN CITY

take advantage of a player like him. He's an experienced player, having been in the Second Division with Luton and he's already clocked up over 180 appearances at Sincil Bank.

PHIL TURNER: Still only 21, Phil came to the club as a schoolboy, signed professional over two years ago and has over 100 League appearances to his credit. He's a manager's type of player because he gets through so much work on the field.

One minute he's up front helping to score a goal and the next he's back in defence heading balls off the line. He has developed into a very competent player and will be in a higher division before he's much older.

MARSHALL BURKE: One of the more experienced players in the squad, having had spells at Burnley, Leeds and Blackburn Rovers. A former Scottish

schoolboy international, I paid just £2,500 for his services just before Christmas.

He is a good professional who gets on with the game without mucking about... the sort of player who's worth his weight in gold because at three o'clock on a Saturday afternoon you know what he's going to do.

GEORGE SHIPLEY: One of our rare big-money signings — he cost £40,000 — he made a few appearances in the First Division for Southampton and played against Liverpool. He has been at the club for four years and I can guarantee that he will score 15 goals every season.

He is a very talented, creative player who can combine the role of the old fashioned wing-half with the role of the modern day midfielder... a very difficult man to play against.

GORDON HOBSON: When I came to the club over four years



David Carr — "a manager tends to take advantage of a player like him."

MARAUDERS!

Phil Turner — "he'll be in a higher division before he's much older."



ago, he was playing as a winger, but he was driving me mad because one week he would be brilliant and then you wouldn't see him for a couple of weeks.

I felt he was wasted out wide so I put him up front as an out-and-out striker and it paid off. He became more involved in the game and began to score a few goals... now he's one of the most consistent players in the Third Division.

GLENN COCKERILL: I sold Glenn to Swindon for £100,000 a couple of years ago but bought him back for £40,000 when he failed to settle at the Wiltshire club. He was originally a midfielder player but I put him up front where he could put his strength and height to better use.

He is a very strong runner with good control and his form last season sparked off interest among several top clubs. In fact, on transfer deadline day, we turned down an offer of £130,000 and clubs are still keeping a close watch on him.

DEREK BELL: He was an apprentice at Derby County when I was there as manager and I can remember that he

showed a lot of potential. He went on to play for Halifax and Barnsley and was regularly on the scoresheet at both clubs.

I bought him for about £30,000 last year and he ended the season with 27 League and cup goals. He is a good left-sided player, which is something of a rarity these days, and he'll be an important player for us next season.

STUART NAYLOR: Our young reserve goalkeeper who I'm predicting a very bright future for. A competent number one, he has played for the England youth team and did very well when he was loaned out to Fourth Division Peterborough last season.

GARY STRODDER: Another of our up-and-coming youngsters who could slot nicely into the defensive position vacated by Trevor Peake, who went to Coventry in the close season. He's a strong aggressive centre-half who attacks the ball and takes no prisoners. He has been at the club since leaving school three years ago and made 12 first team appearances last season — six as substitute.

Steve Thompson — "dangerous at set-pieces."





Above left: Dreaming of the real thing? A porcelain replica of the World Cup stands alongside some of Graham's cherished souvenirs.

Above right: Graham is building up a large collection of shirts and here he's pictured with some of his most prized — including his England debut shirt and a Scottish one swapped with his Spurs team-mate Alan Brazil.

Left: Graham relaxes with his wife Ann-Marie at their Hertfordshire home.

Below: The sand flies and thankfully so does the ball as 18 handicap golfer Graham digs himself out of a troublesome bunker.



The private life of **Graham Roberts**

MARK LAWRENSEN

Liverpool and Eire



ROBERTO Falcao, the brilliant Brazilian, has signed a new one-year contract with Italian champions AS Roma worth in the region of £130,000. This ended six weeks of speculation, denial and counter-denial about Falcao's future.

AS Roma were reported to have made a final offer of £120,000. Then out stepped Brazilian 'adviser' Cristoforo Colombo from the back room where he had been conducting negotiations to announce: "It is finished. He is leaving. Falcao is leaving Roma." Falcao would make no comment on the new deal.

■ **FORMER** Italy goalkeeper Dino Zoff may have called it a day at 41, but Holland's Jan Jongbloed has decided to carry on playing for at least another season at the age of 42.

He enjoyed his comeback so



much with Go-Ahead Eagles last season that he has decided to extend his contract.

And Go-Ahead chief coach Henk Williams is delighted. "We were in serious relegation trouble when Jan started playing for us. He brought so much confidence to the defence that they fought their way out of trouble superbly."

■ **UNWANTED** by Birmingham manager Ron Saunders, but still in demand on the Continent is Tonne van Mierlo. After a loan period with Dutch side Willem II, he has joined RWDM in Belgium who were not happy with their mid-table position last season.

■ **SINGAPORE** international Fandi Ahmad has signed a one-year contract with Dutch side FC Groningen to become the first player from that country to be a big-time professional in Europe.

■ **HENNES** Weisweiler, manager of Swiss champions Grasshoppers, died recently from a sudden heart attack at the

age of 64. He was one of Europe's top coaches and was formerly in charge of New York Cosmos, Barcelona, Cologne and Borussia Moenchengladbach.

■ **ENGLAND** manager Bobby Robson doesn't need reminding about the dangers posed by Denmark in their European Championship qualifying group, but the record of his adversary, Sepp Piontek, is second to none.

In four years, he has moulded the Danish side from part-timers and exported professionals into one of the most improved teams in Europe and, in his spell as manager, they have won 18 of their 37 matches, with eight draws and 11 defeats.

FEARLESS FELIX IS AJAX ACE

NEW Ajax capture, Austrian star Felix Gasselich, says he's not frightened about stepping into the shoes of their former skipper Soren Lerby.

Lerby, along with Dutch legend John Cruyff, goalkeeper Piet Schrijvers and top scorer Wim Kieft have all moved on, but that doesn't worry the 27-year-old Austrian.

"I know some people are saying that Ajax will be nothing without Cruyff and Lerby and that no way can I follow in the footsteps of Lerby, that brilliant young Danish star," he says.

"I'm not one bit frightened. It's another step in my career and I'm happy to be associated with a club with a name like Ajax."

Hamburg coach Ernst Happel, a former Austrian international, reckons Gasselich was the best player in Austria last season when he scored 15 goals from midfield for Austria Vienna.

He tipped off Ajax chief coach Aad de Mos who says: "Felix has a lot of experience, has played in more than twenty European Cup games, plays well on and off the ball and combines neat short passes with golden forty-metre deliveries."

"As far as I am concerned, our midfield is now complete and losing Lerby will not be so hard to swallow."

But there could be another Soren Lerby doing the rounds in

a few years time. Two-month-old Kaj, named after his Danish grandad, is already being hailed as a star footballer of the future in the mould of his talented father.

Soren, now with Bayern Munich in West Germany, simply laughs it off as "just another of those like father, like son forecasts."

Right now the Danish skipper has other things on his mind, such as fitting into Bayern's midfield as the replacement for Paul Breitner and organising a move to taking, near Munich,



Right: Former Ajax skipper Soren Lerby — the club believe they have found a suitable replacement for him.

HOW THEY STAND WORLD-WIDE

NORWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Valerengen	11	7	3	1	22	8	17
Bryne	11	6	2	3	19	12	14
Lillestrom	11	5	4	2	21	15	14
IK Start	11	5	3	3	24	18	13
Viking Star	11	5	2	4	17	15	2
Moss	11	4	4	3	17	19	12
Rosenborg Tron.	11	3	5	3	19	17	11
EIK	11	3	4	4	13	14	10
Mjondalens	11	3	4	4	11	17	10
Kongsvinger	11	3	2	6	24	24	8
Brann	11	1	5	5	8	20	7
Hamkam	11	1	2	8	8	27	4

NEW ZEALAND

HOW THEY STAND Mount Wellington 13 pts, Christchurch 12, Miramar, North Shore, Nelson, Papatoetoe 11, Napier, Manurewa, Dunedin City 9; WDU 8, Gisborne 7; Dunedin Tech 1

USSR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Chernomorets	16	10	2	4	24	16	22
Jalghiris	16	7	7	2	15	10	21
Dynamo Minsk	16	8	4	4	22	15	20
Pshtakor Tash.	16	7	5	4	23	12	20
Zenit Len.	16	7	5	4	19	14	19
Dnpr Dnep.	16	7	4	5	24	19	18
Spartak Moscow	16	6	6	4	25	14	18
Dynamo Kiev	16	6	6	4	14	16	18
Torpedo Moscow	16	5	7	4	15	15	17
Shakhtyor Don.	16	7	2	7	22	19	16
CSKA	16	6	4	6	15	16	16
Ararat	16	6	1	8	17	25	15
Metallist	16	6	3	7	17	20	15
Neftchi Baku	16	5	4	7	16	19	14
Dynamo Moscow	16	3	7	6	13	14	13
Dynamo Tbilisi	16	4	4	8	16	19	12
Torpedo Kutaisi	16	1	5	9	8	20	8
Nistru	16	3	2	11	9	30	8

UNITED STATES

EASTERN DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt
Toronto	13	9	5	26	20	73
New York	12	8	4	30	18	67
Montreal	13	5	8	24	32	49
Chicago	8	5	3	14	13	43

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt
Tulsa	12	4	8	17	25	41
Team America	11	6	5	11	13	40
Tampa Bay	12	4	8	17	25	35
Fort Lauderdale	11	3	8	18	23	33

WESTERN DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt
Vancouver	12	11	1	25	9	88
Golden Bay	7	6	1	20	8	52
Seattle	9	3	6	12	16	28
San Diego	7	1	6	15	10	10

RUMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Dynamo Bucharest	34	17	15	2	62	25	49
Univ. Craiova	34	20	8	6	66	29	48
Sportul	34	18	8	8	48	29	44
Arges Pitesti	34	17	6	11	50	37	40
Steaua Bucharest	34	14	10	10	47	41	38
Corvinul	34	13	8	13	46	38	34
Olt	34	14	5	15	47	36	33
ASA	34	13	7	14	41	42	33
Jiul Petrozeni	34	12	9	13	35	43	33
Pol. Iasi	34	11	10	13	37	40	32
Bihor	34	12	8	14	57	62	32
Petrolul Ploesti	34	14	4	16	38	55	32
SC Bacau	34	12	7	15	43	47	31
Torgoviste	34	10	11	13	35	44	31
Chimia RM Valcea	34	12	7	15	33	43	31
Brasov	34	11	7	16	41	51	29
Pol/Timisovara	34	9	6	19	35	64	24
Constanta	34	7	6	21	30	65	20

LEADING SCORERS Grosu (Bihor) 20, Cartu (Univ. Craiova) 19, Sandu (Sportul), Augustin (Dynamo Bucharest) 14.

URUGUAY

HOW THEY STAND Nacional 15, Defensor 14, Bella Vista 10, Progreso, Rampla 9, Cerro 8, Wanderers, Danubio, Huracan 7, Sud-America, Miramar Misiones 6, Penarol, River 5.

ARGENTINA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Arg. Juniors	5	3	1	1	9	7	7
Independiente	5	2	3	0	8	6	7
N.O. Boys	5	2	2	1	5	2	6
Estudiantes	5	3	0	2	8	6	8
River Plate	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
San Lorenzo	5	2	1	2	8	6	5
Huracan	4	1	3	0	5	3	5
Platense	4	1	3	0	5	4	5
Racing (CBA)	5	1	3	1	6	6	5
Ferro	5	2	1	2	3	5	5
Temperley	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
Talleres	5	2	0	3	8	4	4
Velez	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
Boca	4	1	2	1	5	6	4
Nueva	4	1	2	1	4	5	4
Rosario	5	1	1	3	7	9	3
Union	5	1	1	3	3	8	3
Racing	5	0	2	3	3	8	2
Instituto	4	0	2	2	0	3	2

LEADING SCORERS Oscar Trassero (River), Claudio Scalise (Rosario), Jorge Dominguez (Boca) 3.

by Melvyn Beck

NEW £80,000 Wolves winger Tony Towner this week looked forward to his first taste of the big time claiming relegated Rotherham "almost wrecked" his dreams of playing in the First Division.

He was all set to join Wolves just before last season's transfer deadline when Rotherham suddenly changed their minds and loaned him to Third Division Sheffield United.

It was a move that both disappointed and angered the former Millwall player. "I think I was probably a victim of club politics somewhere along the line," he says.

"One minute I was set to sign for Wolves, the next I was down in the Third Division on loan to Sheffield United, and I still don't know the reason.

"Rotherham did me no favours in the way they almost wrecked my chance of joining Wolves. I don't know why because I had never caused them any trouble.



Left: Tony Towner — "Rotherham did me no favours," he claims. "They almost wrecked my chances of joining Wolves."

Below: Andy Gray — Tony's looking forward to playing alongside the Scottish international.



TOWNER'S

TORMENT

"At the age of 28, it was now or never for me and I knew that Wolves might be my last chance to play at the top.

"I kept in touch with Wolves supremo Derek Dougan in the hope they would come back in with a bid and, fortunately for me, they did.

"I'm very grateful to Wolves for giving me the chance. After what happened a few months ago, they could well have changed their minds and looked elsewhere."

It really didn't sink in that he was a First Division player until he sat in the dressing rooms at Molineux.

"It came home to me when manager Graham Hawkins handed me a fixture card for next season," says Tony.

"I looked down the list for names like Southend and Port Vale because they are the sort of clubs I've been used to playing against over the past ten years.

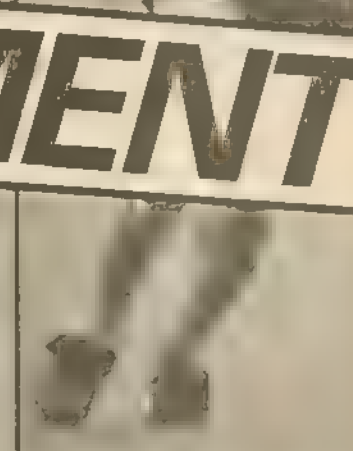
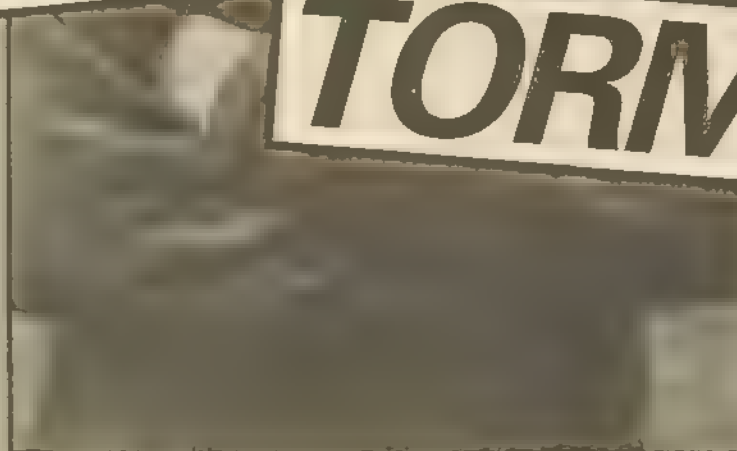
"But when I saw names like Manchester United, Arsenal and Liverpool it really sank home that I was in the big time at last.

"It's going to places like Old Trafford and Anfield that I'm looking forward to most.

"It will be up to me during the pre-season trip to Sweden to impress the Wolves manager in the hope of lining up against Liverpool in the opening game of the season.

"I'm looking forward to playing with Scotland's Andy Gray. I've been used to playing with a big man at Rotherham in Ronnie Moore and I'm hoping I can provide Andy with the same kind of service."

Tony turned down an offer from his old boss Ian Porterfield



'My move to Wolves was nearly wrecked'

to join him at Sheffield United and cancelled a meeting with George Graham, manager of his old club Millwall.

"I gather Millwall were dangling quite a financial carrot in my direction. I would have been better off financially at Millwall, but my mind was made up. I wanted to go to Wolves," he

says.

"I couldn't understand why United wanted me with Terry Curran and Colin Morris already there. If it hadn't been for my friendship with Ian Porterfield, I probably wouldn't have gone there on loan.

"The club never had a very successful time while I was

there, but they did offer me a three-year contract.

"But with all due respect to United and Millwall, I didn't want to go down to the Third Division."

But Tony has no regrets about his time with Rotherham where, in his first season, he helped them win the Third Division Championship.

"My first two seasons were tremendous. We won the title and then just missed out on promotion to the First. But last season everything went wrong, culminating in the sacking of manager Emlyn Hughes.

"I think that after going close the previous season, the lads felt that all we had to do was to get changed to get up.

"It was when the manager was sacked that I asked the club about my future although I had one year of my contract left. I learned of Wolves' interest, and that was the start of a four-month battle to get to Molineux."

BRAIN TEASER

HERE are ten teasers to test your knowledge of soccer events last season. Score check: 5-10 (excellent)

- 1 Name the Fourth Division champions.
- 2 For which club was Bob Newton top scorer?
- 3 Which team was relegated from the First Division?
- 4 Which team finished third in the First Division?
- 5 Which team finished bottom of Division Two?
- 6 Who scored the goal that kept Luton in the First Division?
- 7 Who scored Liverpool's equaliser in the Milk Cup Final?
- 8 Who put Brighton ahead in the FA Cup Final?
- 9 Name one of the relegated teams in Division Three.

TRUE or FALSE?

- 1 Charlie Nicholas scored on his Scotland debut against Sweden. True or false?
- 2 Mike Channon played for Newcastle and Norwich last season? True or false?
- 3 Norwich's Aage Hareide is a Danish central defender. True or false?
- 4 Allan Simonsen left Charlton last season to return home to Switzerland. True or false?
- 5 Chelsea have signed Pat Nevin from Scottish club Clyde. True or false?

LETTER JUMBLE

Unravel the jumble of letters to discover the name of a First Division player transferred in the close season.

SMNYODANTAH

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Every week there's reports of all the big fish catches, the latest news, advice and information. Big prize competitions and loads of pictures. If you're into fishing get into Angling Times.

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So if you're setting out on the long road to what you hope will be stardom in the tough competitive

world of professional football, then this is just the book for you.

All you have to do to win one of these super books is to take a careful look at the two cartoons. They may look identical at first glance, but there are ten deliberate differences.

Circle the differences with a pen on cartoon B, fill in the entry form, stating your name and address, and send it off to: Book Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

The senders of the first ten correct entries pulled out of the 'Match Weekly' postbag will receive the prizes.

Entries must reach us by Friday, August 5 and the results will be announced in our August 20 issue.

Name.....

Address.....



SOCCERWORD

ACROSS

1. The top scorer in Division Two last season and the joint top League scorer (4,7)
- Famous family which includes John, Mel and Jeremy (7)
- 1 & 18 across. The top scorer in Division One last season and the joint top League scorer (6,8)
- Billy Allen hides a manager (5)
- 'Mangle it' (anagram) — a soccer-player may easily mangle one in his leg (8)
- They accommodate spectators (6)
- The country which will stage the next European Championship final (6)
- See 9 across
- A first appearance (5)
- Elie international who recently went from Wigan to Port Vale (6)
- Club against which Ian Rush hit one of his November hat-tricks (7)
- See 15 down
- Midfielder Barry — has played for several clubs and has spent the last couple of seasons with Orient (7)

DOWN

- Neighbouring clubs may meet in a derby (5)
- Big defender who made his 100th League appearance for Notts County last season (8)
- They start arriving at around twenty-to-five on soccer Saturdays (7)
- Physically strong and active... as Oldham say they are? (8)
- He has been capped whilst with Leeds, Coventry, Spurs and Vancouver (8)
- There must be four fixed ones around a pitch (5)
- They keep the players fit (4)
- One of Mansfield's main scorers for the last three seasons (8)
- 1 & 23 across. Something a player may have to pass before a match (7,4)
- 'B. O. Batt' (anagram) — a former Swansea, Crewe and Southend forward (6)
- Hood was an ever-present and Player of the Year for York last season (5)
- The top scorer in Division Three last season and the overall top scorer in England and Wales (5)



Have I got the free kick? Gary Stevens, now with Tottenham, takes a cheeky sideways glance as our photographer clicks the shutter.

SOCCER



Raindrops keep falling on my head . . . or in Bruce Grobbelaar's case they don't, thanks to his make-shift umbrella. Liverpool must be on the attack again . . .

Brian Daniels is saying offside but we daren't print Stan Bowles thoughts as he strikes an angry clenched fist pose behind the referee's back.



SMILERS



*"If you're not going to play properly I'll have my ball back."
Referee Keith Hackett (top left) gets to grips with former-Coventry 'keeper Les Sealey.*

Take that! West Ham 'keeper Phil Parkes (above) delivers a knockout goalmouth clearance . . . and Everton's Mark Higgins is on the receiving end. We're sure that ball must be around somewhere . . .

When I said take his legs . . . Liverpool's Ian Rush (left) goes into a sliding tackle and comes out with a spare pair!

'THE LEGEND I MUST REPLACE'

by John Lukic

A PHONE call from Arsenal manager Terry Neill ended an anxious four-month wait for want-away keeper John Lukic.

John had been on the transfer list at Leeds — at his own request — since the beginning of March, but had to wait until earlier this month for the first offer to come along.

And it was while he was on holiday in Morocco that 22-year-old John finally got the call he had been hoping for.

The England Under-21 goalkeeper recalls: "I couldn't believe it when Terry Neill rang me in Morocco and said he wanted to sign me."

"He told me that Arsenal and Leeds had agreed terms and it was down to me. I was surprised to say the least."

"There had been stories in the papers before I went away on holiday saying that Arsenal were interested in me but I took it all with a pinch of salt."

"I went down to Highbury when I came back to discuss personal terms and signed soon after."

"Arsenal are one of the biggest clubs in the country and I'm delighted to have joined them."

"It's now going to be up to me to battle for a place in the first team and prove myself."

"Whether I will be able to dispossess Pat Jennings I don't know, but that's got to be my aim at Arsenal."

Admired

"I know it won't be easy because although Pat is 38, he's still a great goalkeeper and one I have admired for a long time."

"I'm sure he will be able to help me a lot and I'm really looking forward to working with him as well as Terry Neill and Don Howe."

John denies rumours of a rift between himself and Leeds boss Eddie Gray and says that his only reason for leaving Elland Road is to play First Division football.

"I felt I needed to better myself and the only way I could do that was to leave the club," he says.

"Having played most of my football in Division One, I desperately wanted to return there and I couldn't see that happening with Leeds in the near future."

"The club may well get back in the top flight, but that's in the long term and I am more concerned about the present and furthering my career."

"My ambition is to play for my country and I felt I would only improve my chances of doing that by moving to a First Division club."

John had been at Elland Road for six years and made 146 consecutive first team appearances up until the beginning of March.

"That was when I went in to see Eddie Gray and told him that I wanted to leave," says John. "He was very understanding and agreed to make it public."

"I was left out of the side for the rest of the



John Lukic — surprised but delighted to have moved to Arsenal — the man John will be out to dispossess.

season, but it wasn't because of my form. Eddie thought it would be in the best interests of the club and myself if I stood down."

"I wasn't really unhappy at the club, in fact I had six great years there and it was a sad day when I actually left."

"But there was something nagging at the back of my mind and I was beginning to think that my chances of returning to the top flight were slipping away."

John was bitterly disappointed that Leeds missed out on promotion last season and

admits: "I may well have stayed if we'd bounced straight back to the First Division."

"But I felt it was the right time to go and a good chance to put out some feelers and see what the market was like."

"I always felt a club would come in for me at some stage, but the last few months were a bit frustrating because I had not been playing and my future was uncertain."

"Now I can start concentrating on my game again and I'm looking forward to the new season — even though I will probably start as deputy to Pat Jennings."



ALBION ACE DROPS DOWN THE LEAGUE BUT IT'S

JOHN Wile is back where it all began for him nearly twenty years ago.

It was tiny Peterborough United who gave him his first big break in League football after he had been rejected by home town club Sunderland.

And, after 13 years at the top with West Brom, the 36-year-old central defender has returned to the Fourth Division club in the hope of repaying a long-standing debt of gratitude.

But it was not purely out of sentiment that John rejected the chance of continuing in the First Division with Albion and tore up a lucrative contract from Vancouver Whitecaps to take up the challenge with 'Posh' in the basement.

"I felt the time was just right. I had made my decision some years ago about going into management, the difficult part was deciding when to do it," says John, who cost Albion just £30,000 in December 1970.

"Obviously I've always had a soft spot for Peterborough. They gave me my first chance in League football and set me on the road towards my long career in the First Division.

"So nothing would give me more satisfaction than to achieve some success at Peterborough. Their facilities wouldn't embarrass the Second Division, and that's my initial target.

"I did try to put sentiment to one side when assessing the offer, but I did feel that here was a club where any success I achieved would be recognised.

"The club has enormous potential and I have the confidence in my ability to hopefully realise some of that potential.

"Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to stay at Peterborough for the rest of my managerial career, but not in the Fourth Division.

"I'm ambitious. I want to manage in the First Division, and I would love to achieve that with Peterborough."

John who made 500 League appearances for Albion with the distinction of never having been dropped, could have been some way towards his management dream had he accepted offers from Second Division clubs Bolton and Oldham last year.

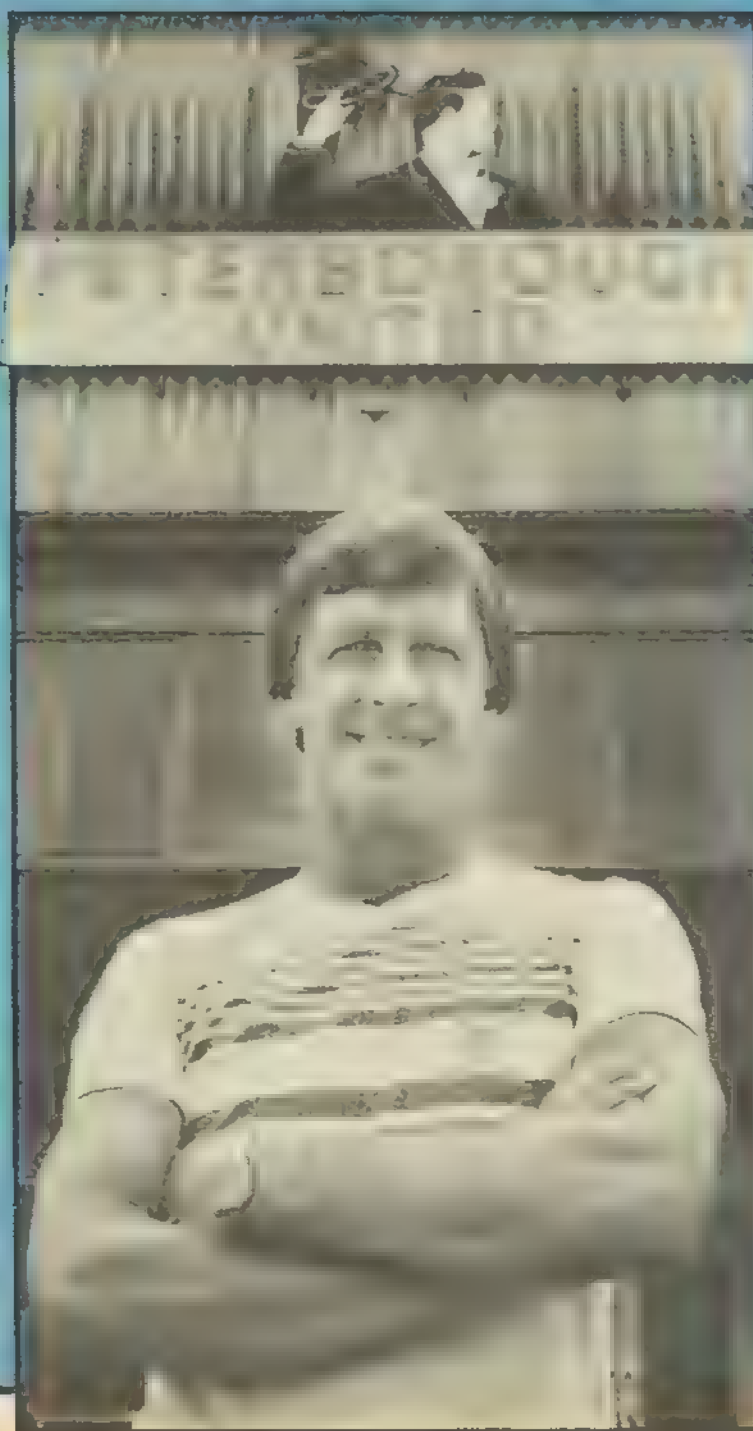
"I just didn't feel the time was right to make the switch. I still felt I had plenty to offer to the First Division and wanted to continue playing in the West Brom side," he says.

"You can manage a side until you're 65, but you can't play until that age.

"I received some offers several years ago but declined them for the very same reason. I wanted to play at the top for as long as possible, and, since turning down those offers, I've played another 200 First Division matches.

"Since last summer, I've been linked with every managerial vacancy I was on the short list at Middlesbrough and received a

WELL WORTH WILE!



good offer from Colchester, but I just felt that Peterborough was the right club for me.

"I had reached the situation where I was turning down so many offers that I wondered whether people might become suspicious of me.

"They probably wondered whether I demanded too much money or lacked confidence in my ability, but it was all a question of timing.

"I could have signed a new two-year contract at Albion, who wanted me in the First Division side again next season, or gone to Vancouver where I would have been far better off financially than even playing in the First Division.

"Both those offers were very tempting and that's why it was a difficult decision to make."

John appreciates that he faces a big challenge in attempting to revive the fortunes of a club without money, but he is prepared to graft and apply himself in the same way he did as a First Division player.

He watched the side four times towards the end of last season after accepting the job, and they lost three of the games.

Even so he wasn't too disheartened by what he saw: "They lacked the experience needed on the field to knit together as a unit. There were some good individual players, but they weren't always pulling the same way at the right time.

"So my main task is to bring some experience into the side and to get the team playing the same way week in, week out.

"If we can establish a clear pattern in our performance every week, then I'll be more than satisfied.

"If things go the way I want them to go, then we won't be far away from promotion.

And the 64,000 dollar question that everyone asks him: "How long are you going to keep on playing?"

"I've been continually asked that question since I turned 30 and I have always given the same answer.

"While I am still able to do a good job in the side, then I'll carry on.

"But if, after a couple of games in the Fourth Division, I found that I was struggling, then I would immediately stop playing.

"Having been asked to carry on playing in the First Division with Albion, then obviously I should manage a few games in the Fourth.

"I've still got my pace and there's no one around today who would give me the runaround.

"When that's gone, and I feel I have become a handicap, then I'll stop."

Left: John Wile — back where it all began at Peterborough United.

IAN CARTWRIGHT
Wolves





JOHN GREGORY
QPR and England

WHICH teams will be celebrating promotion from the Fourth Division next May?

'Match' put the question to four stars who made the climb last term . . .

BURY will be the team to watch in Division Four next season.

They only just missed out on promotion last term and in fact could have clinched fourth place had they beaten Wimbledon in the last game of the season.

Although we beat them twice by the odd goal they did give us two very hard games and were probably the best team we played all season.

They have a lot of good players at Gigg Lane and in Craig Madden they have a striker who is always likely to score goals.

Bury will probably go up as Champions but I have a sneaking feeling they will be hard pressed by Bristol City . . . a prediction which may well surprise a few people.

They could only manage a mid-table position last season, but were a team who rose to the occasion and they gave us a roasting at Ashton Gate.

If they can get off to a good start and get a winning habit they will be there, or thereabouts next May.

Bristol City were playing in the top flight not so many years ago and I don't see why they can't follow us out of the Fourth Division.

Colchester are another side who just missed the boat last season, but I think they will have learned from the experience and will go up next term.

I'm going for Mansfield to fill the other promotion place simply on their performance against us at their place last year when they thumped us 3-1 and looked a very good side.

They are a steady team at home, but last season struggled away. If they can become more consistent I don't think they will have too many problems next season.

says Gareth Roberts



Kerry Dixon — great asset to Reading.



Russell Bromage

ROCHDALE — under the guidance of former team-mate and coach Jimmy Greenhoff — could be the surprise package of the Fourth Division next season.

Although the club didn't pull up any trees last season, I think, with Jimmy in charge, they will be a different team altogether.

The former Manchester United and Leeds star is a very honest bloke and has the sort of personality which makes players want to do anything for him.

There are some good players at Rochdale and with the signing of the experienced Mick Doyle they will be a difficult side to beat, especially at home.

If they can improve their away record, which was appalling last season, I think they'll be in with a shout.

My tip for the Championship, however, is Peterborough, who I expect to come under new manager John Wile.

A good footballing side, they have missed out on promotion the last few seasons when they have been in the hunt right up until the last day.

Bury did exactly the same last term, they looked at one stage almost certain to go up. They probably became too complacent, but I don't expect them to make the same mistake twice and they should go up next year.

says Russell Bromage

BLACKPOOL will breeze into Division Three next season!

People will probably think I'm crazy to say that when you look at their final position in the Fourth Division last term.

But I have a strong feeling that the club from the famous seaside resort could surprise a few people and clinch promotion.

They had a disastrous run last season and finished fourth from bottom of the League . . . but I expect to see a different side when the new season gets under way.

The players will have learned a lot from last season and manager Sam Ellis will make sure everyone works extra hard in future.

He has begun to knit a good team together and now he has sold Dave Bamber to Coventry he will have money to spend on strengthening his squad.

Blackpool are my outside bet for promotion, but favourites in my book are Mansfield, who I think could go up as Champions.

The Stags' had a new manager mid-way through last season — Ian Greaves — and his experience could be vital to them next term.

We played them towards the end of the season soon after he took over and they were a completely different side to the one we played earlier and beat 2-1.

There was a whole new spirit in the side which he has managed to instil in a short time and he will have that from the start next season . . . they will be a difficult side to beat.

I fancy Colchester and Reading, who were relegated from Division Three last season, to fill the other two promotion places.

Reading look like keeping hold of their star striker Kerry Dixon and that could make all the difference for them.

He had a great season despite the fact that he missed a number of games through injury and any player who can score almost 30 goals in a side which finishes near the bottom of the table has to be a great asset.

says Gary Peters

WHO'S



Jimmy Greenhoff — will lead Rochdale to the Third Division says Russell Bromage.

MATCH IS THE



Micky Gynn (left) — he can help Peterborough to the Championship.

GOING UP?

GARETH ROBERTS
(Hull)

1. Bury
2. Mansfield
3. Bristol City
4. Colchester

RUSSELL BROMAGE
(Port Vale)

1. Peterborough
2. Bury
3. Reading
4. Rochdale

GARY PETERS
(Wimbledon)

1. Mansfield
2. Colchester
3. Reading
4. Blackpool

CHRIS COWLING
(Scunthorpe)

1. Peterborough
2. Chesterfield
3. Doncaster
4. Bury

I FANCY Peterborough to finally fulfil their potential and break out of the Fourth Division.

They have been there, or thereabouts for the last few seasons, but always seemed to falter on the run-in . . . I don't think they will do the same next term.

John Wile, their new manager, will no doubt instil the same fighting spirit into his side which was his trademark as a player at West Brom.

'Posh' are a very good footballing side and unlike a number of clubs, don't try to kick their way out of the division.

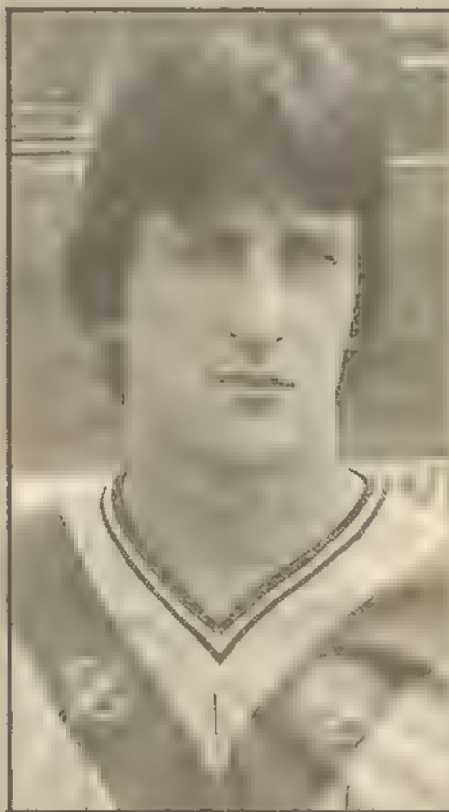
They have some good players — Micky Gynn and Ian Benjamin in particular — and I think next season could be their year and they will go up as Champions.

I'm going for relegated Chesterfield to fill the runners-up spot and return to the Third Division at the first attempt.

I suppose I'm a bit biased towards them because my former boss John Duncan is in charge at Chesterfield, and Steve Baines — our skipper at Scunthorpe last season — has just joined them.

I also fancy Doncaster to bounce straight back to the Third Division next season with the fourth promotion place going to Bury, who looked a useful side last term. ♫

says Chris Cowling



Chris Cowling says Chesterfield can bounce back

● **NEXT WEEK:** Who's going up from Division Three? More views from the stars.

MAGAZINE THAT GETS YOU TALKING



I'M a 20 year old Leeds fanatic and would like correspondence with regular Elland Road visitor. JOHN CONWAY, 8 Cavalry Crescent, Eastbourne, Sussex. BN20 8NT

PROGRAMME PARADE

MINSTER MAN TAKES TO THE ROAD

THE work-mates of Paul Bowser think he's crackers... and he believes they might be right.

The reason is that he intends using up his holiday entitlement in separate days next year following little York City around the country.

"To me there is no other football team," says 20-year-old Paul who lives at nearby Thirsk.

"I've been compiling scrapbooks and collecting their programmes since the mid-seventies and I haven't missed a home game for five years.

"I've also managed to fit in about 15 away games per season, but I hope to manage the lot next

season by using up my holidays in days here and there."

Naturally his programme collection is devoted to York, even though they hardly qualify as one of the most fashionable and successful clubs on the League circuit.

He even parted with his 600-strong collection of big match programmes to concentrate solely on the Fourth Division club.

In the past seven years, he has accumulated 1,200 York programmes, and requires only a handful to complete a full set of home and aways dating back to 1963.

"I started collecting around 1976," he says. "I collected the 1976-77 season programmes and then decided to try and obtain all the programmes from the club's two seasons in the Second Division (1974-75 and 1975-76).

"When I had achieved that, I set about collecting all the homes and aways from 1970. I had a few lucky breaks obtaining fifty-odd from a school friend and then around 15 aways from the son of the people who worked in the club shop at that time.

"At this time I was having problems in obtaining programmes from the games at Halifax, Wrexham and Swansea, the latter two, along with Newport, I consider the most difficult programmes to obtain, but I finally tracked them down.

"I then concentrated on the period from 1965-66. There was no one particular injection from any one source unlike earlier, and I only slowly picked up the odd one here and there.

"However, in the last three years I have received catalogues from various dealers and I have picked up programmes at a much quicker rate.

"By the middle of last year I was in a position to contemplate collecting earlier issues and so decided to go back to 1963-64.

"It was through 'Match Weekly' that I made contact with the Programme Cabin and obtained, over a few months, around fifty 1963-64 and 1964-65 programmes."

Friendly programmes are Paul's favourite type: "If you can track them down, particularly those away from home, then that is a real achievement, especially if they are a few years old.

"I have most of York's friendlies from 1963, but for a few seasons in the mid-sixties I have no idea who they played.



Paul Bowser — crackers about York

"I also like non-League issues in the FA Cup and it's from that competition that I have perhaps my most valuable programmes.

"I have four programmes from the club's record-breaking run to the Semi-Finals in 1955. They are worth around £25 on current catalogue prices."

The programmes Paul is looking for are: 1963-64 Hartlepool, Oxford and Bradford City (home); Bradford City, Bradford Park Avenue, Lincoln and Halifax (away). 1964-65: Hartlepool and Wrexham (home); Halifax (away). 1965-66: Millwall (home). 1966-67: Hartlepool, Wrexham and Morecambe (away). 1969-70 Wrexham and Bangor City (away). 1970-71: Boston United (away). 1974-75: Valur (home). 1976-77 Bradford City (away).

SWOPS

OFFER: Programmes from various Dutch sides like Haarlem, Ajax, Feyenoord and Telstar, programmes from Borussia Dortmund and Dutch souvenirs.

WANTS: Any English and Scottish programmes plus West Ham, Man. United and Dundee United souvenirs. John Van Leeuwen, Assumburg 33, 2036 Ja Haarlem, Holland.

OFFER: Six Cardiff, two West Brom, one Tottenham, Aberdeen and Bristol City and Wales v USSR (World Cup). WANTS: 1983 Spain v Eire. George Hughes, 85 Ashwood Road, Clondalkin, Dublin.

OFFER: Fifteen varied First Division programmes from 1978 to 1982. WANTS: Liverpool homes from 1981-82 against West Brom, Nottingham Forest and Tottenham. Stephen Brown, 140 Otley Drive, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.

OFFER: 1970 and 1972 FA Cup Finals. WANTS: 1965-66 FA Cup Semi-Final and replay, Man. United v Leeds, and 1967 FA Cup Semi-Final, Leeds v Chelsea. Dave Lowes, 103 Maesglas Road, Gendros, Swansea.

OFFER: Twenty assorted programmes from last season, and 1978 European Cup Final programme, Liverpool v Bruges. WANTS: Some Leeds or West Brom programmes from last season and 1973 FA Cup Final, Leeds v Sunderland. Michael MacHale, 41 Woodlands Road, Cabinteely, County Dublin, Ireland.

OFFER: 1972 FA Cup Final, Arsenal v Leeds, 1972 England v West Germany, 1974 England v Portugal, 1976 Wales v Yugoslavia, 1965 Wales v Greece, five Man. United's from 1979 and two Portsmouth testimonials v Aston Villa and Southampton. WANTS: Any foreign programmes, especially from Russia, America, Africa and the Middle East.

ASK THE EXPERT

(programme valuations)

1965 Leicester v Liverpool (30p); 1966 Liverpool v Burnley (25p); 1979 FA Cup Final, Arsenal v Liverpool (60p); 1979 Charity Shield, Arsenal v Liverpool (75p); 1981 League Cup Final, Liverpool v West Ham (75p); 1983 FA Cup, Wrexham v Liverpool (30p); 1971 FA Cup, Liverpool v Southampton (15p) — Elizabeth Jamieson, Southampton.

1978 European Cup Final, Nott'm Forest v Malmo (£1.25); 1968 European Cup Final, Man. United v Benfica (60p); 1972 England v N. Ireland (60p) — Mark Westrope, St Albans.

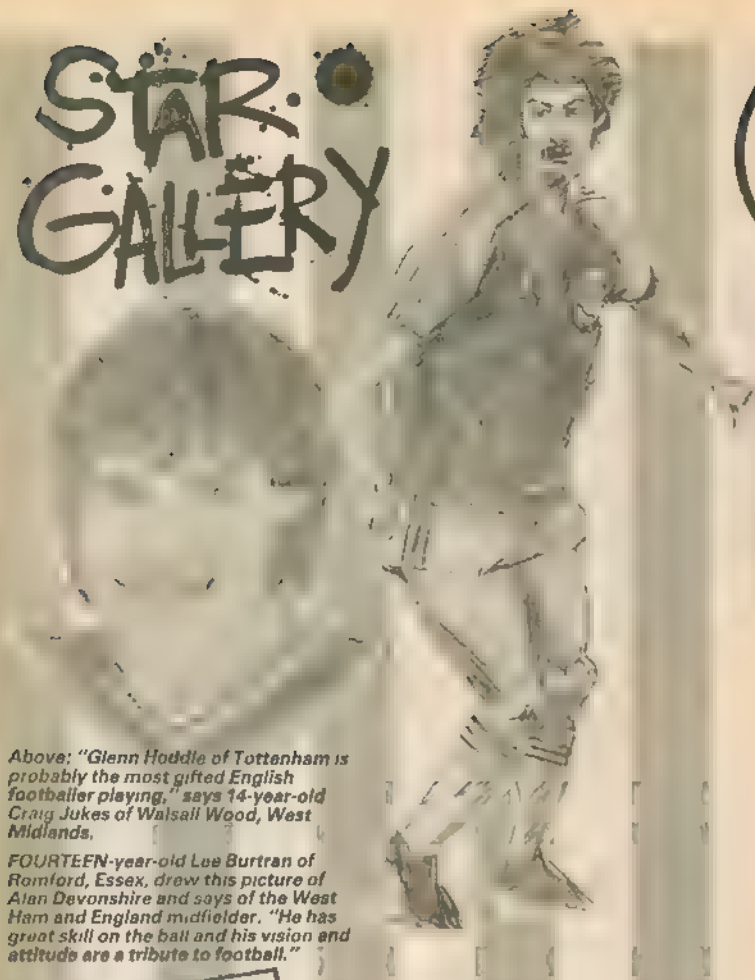
1960 European Cup, Barcelona v Wolves (£4); 1975-76 Wolves v Liverpool (15p); 1956-57 Aston Villa v Wolves (85p); 1958-59 Man. United v Wolves (50p); 1963-64 West Brom v Wolves (30p) — Trevor Worth, Plymouth.

1950-51 Hull v Rotherham (£1.75); 1951-52 Hull v Rotherham, Blackburn v West Ham, Rotherham v Brentford, Hull v Blackburn and Rotherham v Sheffield Wed (all £1.50 each); 1952-53 Newcastle v Rotherham and Chelsea v Sheffield Wed (£1.25 each); 1953-54 West Brom v Rotherham and Charlton v Sheffield Utd (£1.15 each) — Danny Cutts, Rotherham.

1952 Arsenal v Blackpool (£1.50); 1952 Arsenal v Newcastle (£1.50); 1952 FA Cup Semi-Final, Arsenal v Chelsea (£6.50); 1980 Arsenal v Brighton (20p); 1980 Arsenal v Bolton (20p); 1980 Arsenal v Cardiff (20p) — Tina Samuels, Hammers, London.

1956-59 Accrington v Tranmere (£8); 1977 FA Cup Semi-Final, Leeds v Man. United (£2.50); 1955-56 Everton v Bolton (85p); 1976 FA Cup Final (£3); 1977 League Cup Final, second replay (80p); 1953 Wolves v Everton (50p); 1959 Preston v Everton (50p) — Terry Moor, Ely, Cambs.

STAR GALLERY



Above: "Glenn Hoddle of Tottenham is probably the most gifted English footballer playing," says 14-year-old Craig Jukes of Walsall Wood, West Midlands.

FOURTEEN-year-old Lue Burtran of Romford, Essex, drew this picture of Alan Devonshire and says of the West Ham and England midfielder. "He has great skill on the ball and his vision and attitude are a tribute to football."



DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game!

'Big League' is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people — the object being to form a team of 11 players. But you can also amuse yourself by playing 'Big League' patience.

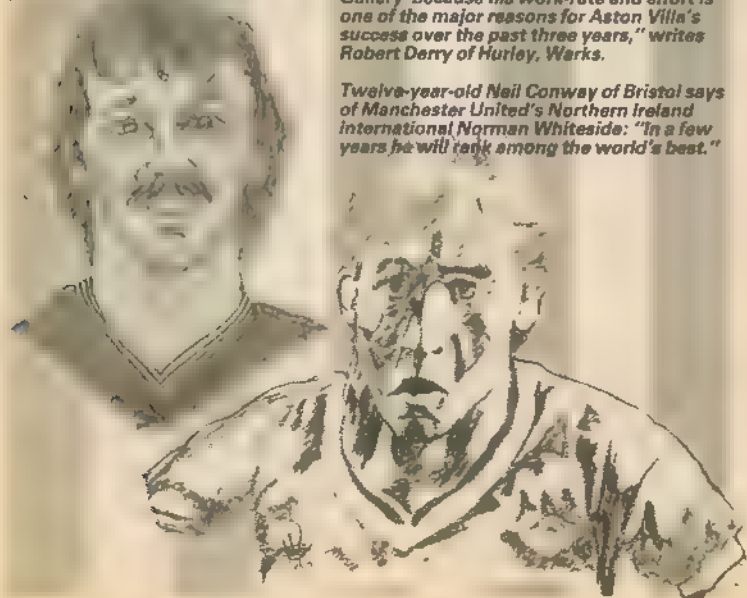
It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do to stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in 'Star Gallery'.

The sender of each drawing published is a winner!

Write to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

"Des Bremner (left) deserves a place in 'Star Gallery' because his work-rate and effort is one of the major reasons for Aston Villa's success over the past three years," writes Robert Derry of Hurley, Works.

Twelve-year-old Neil Conway of Bristol says of Manchester United's Northern Ireland international Norman Whiteside: "In a few years he will rank among the world's best."



£10 WINNER

Give our lads credit!

I'M sick and tired of TV commentators going bananas over the skills of Brazilian and Continental players.

They drool over the slightest thing. For example, in the Wales v Brazil friendly Eder 'bent' a free-kick which goalkeeper Nev Southall saved brilliantly. All the commentators could do was say what a brilliant strike it was. No praise for Nev's fine save.

At the other end, Brian Flynn hit a scorching volley but not a word of acclaim from the commentators. If a Brazilian had hit the shot, instead of Flynn, the commentators would have eaten his innuendoes in excitement!

British players are just as good as foreign ones. And it's time the media gave them credit for it.

Alan (nick-name) Cookyrie, Guernsey, Channel Islands

THERE may be little to choose between the English and West German Leagues in terms of skill, but when it comes to Cup Finals, the English win hands down!

The German Cup Final was a boring event again this year, but the English Final was a spectacular event with some thrilling soccer.

And the fans are better served in England. We don't have so many fan clubs and programmes and souvenir shops over here. Ralf Tobias Priske, Rosenheim, West Germany.

SOME English players are taking advantage of the slightest Irish link they may have to play for Eire.

Michael Robinson and Tony Galvin are two such players who get into the team because their grandfather or great grandfather just happened to be Irish.

This should be stopped. Players should only appear for the countries they are born in. Tadhg Curran (13), Spiddal, Co. Galway, Eire.

● **DON'T blame the players for appearing if they're picked. It's the selectors who use loopholes to turn 'foreigners' into internationals.**



Tony Galvin — under fire.

AFTER reading 'Match' dated July 9, I think you should re-name your magazine 'Mush Weekly'.

Never before have I come across such tripe as 'Swoon girls, it's Heart-Throb Hoddle' dealing with the girls' 'dishonest players'. Yuck!

Such stuff should be left to Mills and Boon, the romantic novel publishers, because football is a man's game and can well do without these fantasising females.

Stephen Poxon, Portsmouth, Hants.

IT seems that teams are obliged to change their strip every year or two, but I was horrified to see Chelsea's new shirts.

I thought the strip — hoops in two different shades of blue — were in very bad taste.

A once-great club has lowered its levels to 'gimmicky' outfits. As a lifelong Chelsea supporter, I think it's disgraceful.

Simon King, Bedford.

I, FOR one, do not believe that Charlie Nicholas will be a big hit for Arsenal next season.

When you consider that a highly-skilled individual like Yugoslav, Vladimir Petrovic failed to slot into the Arsenal system, then Charlie must find similar problems when he dons the red and white of the 'Gunners'.

The Scottish superstar would have been better advised to sign for Manchester United. Ron Atkinson's men appear to be on the threshold of great triumphs, and an attack boasting Whiteside, Stapleton and Nicholas would have been feared throughout Europe.

Nicholas Carson (14), Romford, Essex

I'M getting fed up with people saying that Charlie Nicholas made the wrong decision in signing for Arsenal.

Give him a chance! He has joined the 'Gunners' because they've got a very bright future. Charlie's partnership up-front with Tony Woodcock should be very productive, especially with the likes of Graham Rix and Kenny Sansom providing the service.

I'm not an Arsenal fan, but I still believe Charlie made the wisest move.

Daryl Read, Headlands, Northampton.

IF the Football League is in decline, as many foreign critics say, then why is it that so many Continental clubs are offering fortunes in an attempt to lure our players abroad?

I understand that AC Milan offered £1.5 million for Manchester United's Norman Whiteside and, when Norman rejected the idea, turned their attentions to Bryan Robson, but were equally unsuccessful.

They had more success when they turned their attentions to Watford's Luther Blissett, and signed the England striker for £1 million.

It seems some foreign clubs have a limitless supply of money with which to poach our top players. Stars of the calibre of Kevin Keegan, Liam Brady and Joe Jordan have been lured away in the past. If the trend continues, the Football League will be short of all its great individuals.

Matthew Carr (15), Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

BY featuring football's 'dishiest player', 'Match' has proved that it is not just for boys... that girls figure greatly in the readership, too.

By the way, my vote for the 'dishiest player' went to Gary Shaw, of course!

M. Canway, Mexborough, South Yorkshire.

● **AND I was sure Horst Hrubesch would win the award...**



'Dishy' Horst Hrubesch!

AS the 1983-84 season looms, the so-called experts will be making their predictions as to where the First Division honours will go.

Most of the pundits will go for the likes of Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham but, in my totally biased opinion, people should be well prepared for a dramatic rise in the fortunes of Sunderland, who have potentially one of the best midfields in the League.

I think that Barry Venison (England youth captain and Under-21s), Paul Bracewell (England Under-21s),

TERRACE TALK

WELCOME to the best read letters page in football... with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published.

Yes, throughout the season we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

It's a prize that money can't buy and one could be yours!

Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



Nick Pickering — can play a big part in bringing the roar back to Roker next season.

soon-to-be-signed Mark Proctor (England Under-21s) and Nick Pickering (full England and Under-21s) will be a very formidable quartet, with Welshman Leighton James in the wings if needed.

Sunderland will soon have a side to match their passionate supporters, who will return en bloc next season to watch Alan Durban's team compete with the best.

Biased? Yes, but watch it happen. The Roker Roar is set to return.

T. Lynn, Penshaw, Tyne and Wear.

SO many readers write to 'Terrace Talk' asking why a certain player hasn't been chosen to play for England.

Isn't it obvious that England boss Bobby Robson is trying to include as many players as possible without totally pulling the team apart?

Surely Bobby is in the best position to judge whether a player merits an international place and he should be left to get on with the job.

Nicholas Beale (14), Fakenham, Norfolk.

● **AH, but where's the fun in this?**

ODE TO BLACKPOOL

Blackpool FC used to be the best, with players like Mortensen, they were a cut above the rest.

But, to those days, we've said goodbye Goodbye to all that glory, now all you'll find at Bloomfield Road is one big gloomy story.

For cash is needed at Blackpool, and a lot of it too Cash of every shape and size if Blackpool are to pull through.

For if Blackpool don't find the cash, the football there will cease, and all you'll see is a tombstone 'Blackpool, Rest in Peace'

We all hope that won't happen, and that they'll find the cash some way

And so the lads in tangerine will live to fight another day. Jeanette Brazil, Thornton-Cleveleys, Blackpool, Lancs.

I'M a Burnley supporter and I firmly believe that new manager John Bond will put the Lancashire club back where they belong — in the First Division.

Too often in the past, Burnley have chosen their manager from ex-players or people who were involved with the club.

What was needed was somebody new, with fresh ideas and the determination to make sweeping changes.

Burnley do not belong in the Third Division. John Bond has the dynamism to get them out of it. Simon Hartley (15), Rossendale, Lancashire.

● **JOHN Bond left Norwich shortly before they were relegated and, last season, parted company with Manchester City just before they dropped into Division Two. I just thought I'd mention that...**

I WAS very surprised when I saw the fixtures for the opening day of the season.

The Aston Villa v West Brom derby which usually takes place in October is the first match of the new season.

I think the fixture compilers have made a blunder. Many people will still be on holiday and this showpiece match may well attract a lower attendance than it would if the season was in full swing.

Martin Grubb, Warley, West Midlands.

● **ON the contrary. The best way to kick off a new season is to create a lot of interest with a 'blood and thunder' local derby.**

I WAS overjoyed to see my drawing of Brian Talbot appear in 'Star Gallery' recently. My prize — Big League soccer game — arrived almost immediately and I've had many hours enjoyment with it. Thanks 'Match', you're great. Martin Wilson, Cambridge.

AS a supporter of the greatest team in the world, Liverpool, I would like to congratulate Ronnie Whelan and Elaine Connelly, who were married at St Paul's Church, Liverpool, July 6.

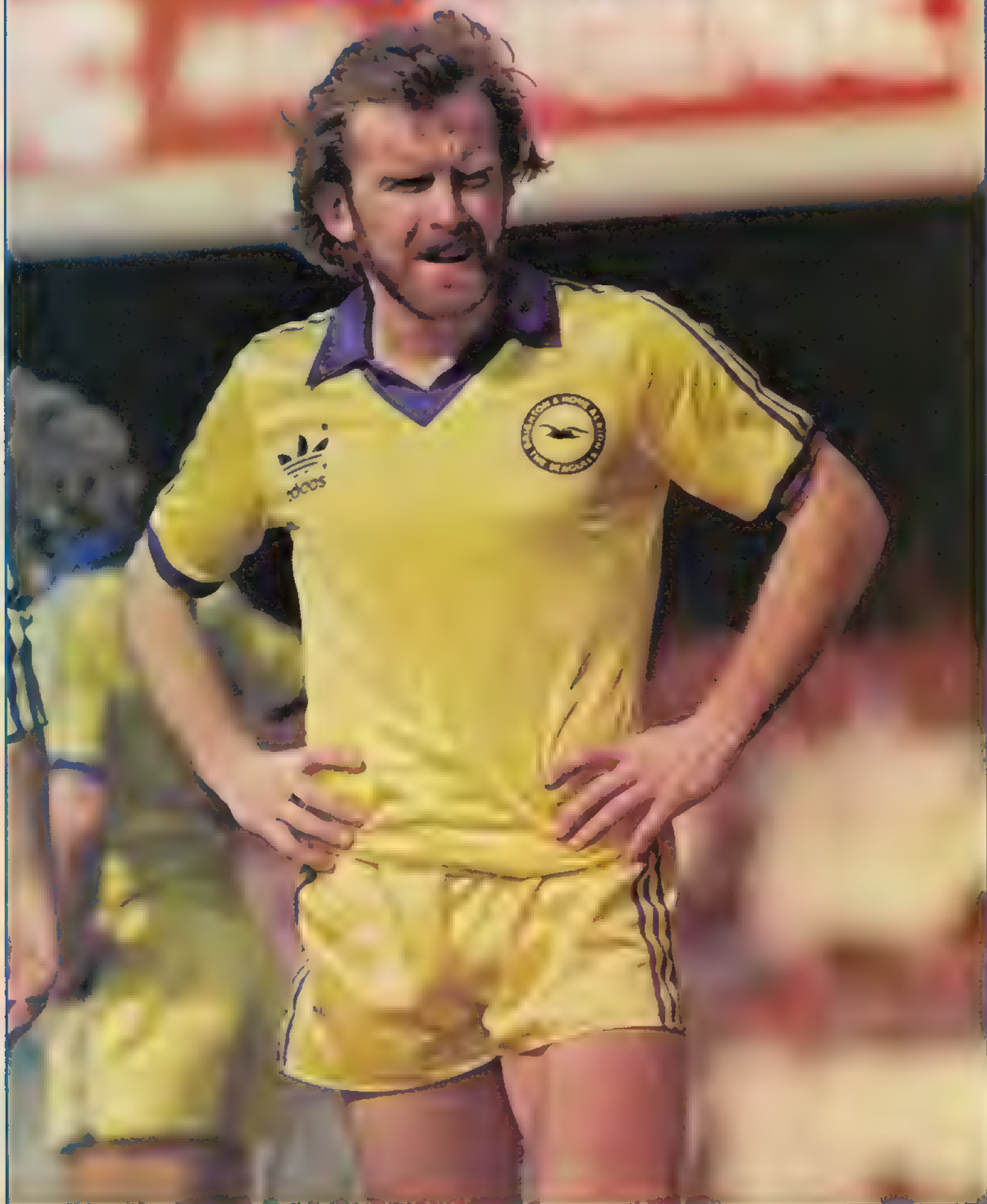
Ronnie is a player who is always scoring great goals, especially when they are desperately needed like in last season's Milk Cup Final. But this time, it looks as though Elaine has achieved her 'goal' — and it was well deserved, too! Julie Smith (18), Dukinfield, Cheshire.



Ronnie Whelan — wedding bells.

TONY GREALISH

BRISTOL and EIRE



match



Cuore

LUTHER BLISSETT AC Milan and England

By Anthony Hawkswell

ANDY McCulloch spoke this week of his three years of frustration at Sheffield Wednesday.

The former Hillsborough favourite, who has joined Alan Mullery's reshaped Crystal Palace, says: "For the last three seasons, Wednesday have been on the verge of promotion to the First Division and have always failed at the final hurdle."

"My spell with Wednesday has been the most frustrating part of my career because we have always been so near and yet so far from the top flight. To miss out again last season was a sickening blow."

The Yorkshire giants finished sixth last term and also reached the Semi-Finals of the FA Cup where they went down 2-1 to Brighton at Highbury.

"If Wednesday had won promotion to the top flight, I would have probably stayed," admits Andy, a much-travelled striker who has seen service with QPR, Cardiff, Oxford and Brentford.

"Leaving Hillsborough was a very difficult decision to make because I've always got on well with the fans. I also like the area and love the people."

"But I've always wanted to end my career in the South, where I hope to open my own business. This is the best and only time for me to move on."

Andy's old club Brentford were the first to have talks with the goalscorer when news leaked out that he'd refused a new deal at Wednesday.

"I spoke to manager Fred Callaghan and

McCulloch moves on after three years of frustration

was very impressed with his attitude. Brentford appealed to me because I had a good time at Griffin Park and the place holds a lot of happy memories for me.

"But the Palace offer gave me a chance to stay in the Second Division. The move also suited me because my wife comes from the Hampton Court area of London and that's not too far from Selhurst Park."

"Everything suited me fine and I was delighted to sign a two-year deal," says Andy, who made over 100 League appearances for the 'Owls'.

"On the playing side, the Palace manager has shown himself to be very ambitious. The signings of goalkeeper George Wood, John Lacy and Stan Cummins prove that he's giving it a go."

"Palace have the nucleus of a very good side. I've always rated players like Jim Cannon and Billy Gilbert and I believe Vince Hialre is one of the most talented players in the Second Division."

Andy, who will be playing up front alongside the gifted Kevin Mabbutt, says: "Promotion is obviously our priority next season."

"And with the squad we've got, there is no reason why we can't oblige. One thing I am sure of is that Palace won't be struggling to avoid relegation like they did last term."

Andy also has a personal ambition he hopes to achieve next season. He says: "I want to keep banging in the goals because I'm only about ten short of my 150. It would be great to pull that off."

His old club Wednesday were rocked in the close season by the departure of popular



Vince Hialre — "so talented" says Andy McCulloch.

WEDNESDAY WOE

Penpals

MOTHERWELL and Leeds are my favourite teams. I'd like a pen pal of my own age.
Gordon Jenkins (17), 124 Millbank Road, Wishaw, Strathclyde, ML2 0JE

I LIKE Dalles, Abba, The Beatles, wrestling and John McEnroe. My favourite footballer is Manchester United's Steve Coppell. I'd like a pen pal who supports any English club.
Ken Dixon, 24 Guildford Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3QD.

SCHALKE 04 from the Bundesliga and Swansea from the Football League are my favourite teams. I'd like a pen pal who supports the Welsh club.
Ralf Plathofer, Ottostrasse 3, 4650 Gelsenkirchen, West Germany.

I'M a Manchester United supporter and go to Old Trafford regularly. I'd like a pen pal from Italy who supports Juventus. My favourite pop group is Dexys Midnight Runners and I also enjoy cricket and snooker.
Tracey Duggan, 23 Altham Road, West Derby, Liverpool, L11 8NH.

manager Jack Charlton. Andy was on a commando course with some of the club's apprentices when he heard the shock news and he says: "I was very surprised to hear he'd quit. His decision to go had nothing to do with mine. I had refused a new contract before he made any announcement."

"The fans were also disappointed but I think they were more surprised by the club's choice of a successor. They expected a big name manager in the mould of Brian Clough."

"I think the fans were looking for someone with a proven track record. The appointment of Howard Wilkinson shook them somewhat."

"But 'Big Jack' has left the club in good stead and I'm sure that Wednesday will once again be challenging at the top of the table."

Andy admits that he's taken a step down in clubs. He says: "Sheffield Wednesday have the potential to be one of the top four clubs in the country. If they were in the First Division and successful they'd be pulling in crowds on the scale of Manchester United."

"Crystal Palace have a First Division set-up but you can't compare them to Sheffield Wednesday. The Hillsborough club

are steeped in tradition."

Andy made 24 League appearances for Wednesday last season after surviving a horrific car crash which could have cost him his life.

He had a lucky escape while returning from a golf match. His car went out of control and somersaulted three times after he had swerved to avoid an oncoming car.

He had to crawl from the wreckage of his vehicle which was leaking petrol and liable to explode. Fortunately Andy only suffered injuries to his knee and within three months he was the hero of Hillsborough again.

It was his goal which gave Wednesday a dream Milk Cup Quarter-Final tie against the mighty 'Gunners' of Arsenal. His team went out at that hurdle but made up for it with an amazing FA Cup run, amazing FA Cup run.

"Reaching the last four of the FA Cup has to be one of the highlights of my stay at Wednesday. It's just a pity we didn't make it to Wembley but it just wasn't our day. I was more disappointed about missing out on promotion than losing to Brighton."

**FILL IN
YOUR OWN
RESULTS**

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Sept 10 — Stoke H
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Sept 24 — West Brom H
Oct 1 — Coventry A
Oct 15 — Q.P.R. H
Oct 22 — Leicester H
Oct 29 — Southampton A
Nov 5 — West Ham A
Nov 12 — Arsenal H
Nov 19 — Nott'm F. H
Nov 26 — Liverpool H
Dec 3 — Sunderland A
Dec 10 — Man. United H
Dec 17 — Aston Villa A
Dec 26 — Wolves H
Dec 27 — Norwich A
Dec 31 — Notts County H
Jan 2 — West Brom A



Paul Mariner... Ipswich captain and England striker.

IPSWICH Division 1

Jan 14 — Tottenham A
Jan 21 — Birmingham H
Jan 28 — Luton A
Feb 4 — Coventry H
Feb 11 — Stoke A
Feb 18 — Southampton H
Feb 25 — Leicester A
Mar 3 — West Ham H
Mar 10 — Arsenal A
Mar 17 — Everton A
Mar 24 — Watford H
Mar 31 — Luton H
Apr 7 — Q.P.R. A
Apr 14 — Nott'm F. H
Apr 21 — Wolves A
Apr 23 — Norwich H
Apr 28 — Liverpool A
May 5 — Sunderland H
May 7 — Man. United A
May 12 — Aston Villa H

LEEDS Division 2



Eddie Gray... experienced Leeds player manager

Aug 27 — Newcastle H
Aug 29 — Brighton H
Sept 3 — Middlesbrough A
Sept 6 — Grimsby A
Sept 10 — Cardiff H
Sept 17 — Fulham A
Sept 24 — Man. City H
Oct 1 — Shrewsbury A
Oct 8 — Sheff Wed A
Oct 15 — Cambr.dge H
Oct 22 — Barnsley A
Oct 29 — Portsmouth H
Nov 5 — C. Palace H
Nov 12 — Blackburn A
Nov 19 — Derby A
Nov 26 — Chelsea H
Dec 3 — Carlisle A
Dec 10 — Swansea H
Dec 17 — Charlton A
Dec 26 — Huddersfield H
Dec 27 — Oldham A
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Jan 2 — Man. City A
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Feb 4 — Shrewsbury H
Feb 11 — Cardiff A
Feb 18 — Portsmouth A
Feb 25 — Barnsley H
Mar 3 — C. Palace A
Mar 10 — Blackburn H
Mar 17 — Grimsby H
Mar 24 — Brighton A
Mar 31 — Sheff Wed H
Apr 7 — Cambridge A
Apr 14 — Derby H
Apr 21 — Huddersfield A
Apr 24 — Oldham H
Apr 28 — Chelsea A
May 5 — Carlisle H
May 7 — Swansea A
May 12 — Charlton H

HERE'S the fifth part of your A-B-C guide to the 1983-84 League fixtures... with spaces for you to fill in all the results.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be featuring every team in the English League and Scottish Premier so that, come the start of the season, you'll have a complete guide.

**Published by courtesy of the Football League.*

Aug 27 — Notts County H
Aug 29 — Luton H
Sept 3 — West Brom A
Sept 6 — West Ham A
Sept 10 — Tottenham H
Sept 17 — Coventry A
Sept 24 — Stoke H
Oct 1 — Birmingham A
Oct 15 — Southampton H
Oct 22 — Ipswich A
Oct 29 — Everton H
Nov 5 — Watford A
Nov 12 — Man. United H
Nov 19 — Aston Villa A
Nov 26 — Arsenal H
Dec 3 — Nott'm F. A
Dec 10 — Wolves H
Dec 17 — Sunderland A
Dec 26 — Q.P.R. H
Dec 27 — Liverpool A
Dec 31 — West Brom H
Jan 2 — Stoke A
Jan 14 — Notts County A

LEICESTER Division 1

Jan 21 — Coventry H
Jan 28 — Norwich A
Feb 4 — Birmingham H
Feb 11 — Tottenham A
Feb 18 — Everton A
Feb 25 — Ipswich H
Mar 3 — Watford H
Mar 10 — Man. United A
Mar 17 — West Ham H
Mar 24 — Luton A
Mar 31 — Norwich H
Apr 7 — Southampton A
Apr 14 — Aston Villa H
Apr 21 — Q.P.R. A
Apr 24 — Liverpool H
Apr 28 — Arsenal A
May 5 — Nott'm F. H
May 7 — Wolves A
May 12 — Sunderland H

LINCOLN Division 3



David Felgate... Lincoln's Welsh goalkeeper.

Aug 27 — Oxford A
Sept 3 — Sheff Utd A
Sept 7 — Orient H
Sept 10 — Brentford A
Sept 17 — Plymouth H
Sept 24 — Hull A
Sept 28 — Exeter A
Oct 1 — Bournemouth H
Oct 8 — Wigan A
Oct 15 — Millwall H
Oct 18 — Newport A
Oct 22 — Burnley H
Oct 29 — Preston A
Nov 2 — Bolton H
Nov 5 — Gillingham A
Nov 12 — Scunthorpe H
Nov 26 — Bristol Rvs. H
Dec 3 — Wimbledon A
Dec 17 — Port Vale A
Dec 26 — Walsall H
Dec 27 — Southend A
Dec 31 — Bradford H
Jan 2 — Rotherham A
Jan 7 — Sheff Utd A
Jan 14 — Oxford H
Jan 21 — Plymouth A
Jan 28 — Brentford H
Feb 4 — Bournemouth A
Feb 11 — Hull H
Feb 14 — Bolton A
Feb 18 — Preston H
Feb 25 — Burnley A
Mar 3 — Newport H
Mar 7 — Gillingham H
Mar 10 — Scunthorpe A
Mar 17 — Wigan H
Mar 24 — Millwall A
Mar 31 — Exeter H
Apr 7 — Orient A
Apr 14 — Wimbledon H
Apr 20 — Southend H
Apr 21 — Walsall A
Apr 28 — Bristol Rvs. A
May 5 — Rotherham H
May 7 — Bradford A
May 12 — Port Vale H

Aug 27 — Wolves A
Aug 29 — Norwich A
Sept 3 — Nott'm Forest H
Sept 6 — Southampton H
Sept 10 — Arsenal A
Sept 17 — Aston Villa H
Sept 24 — Man. United A
Oct 1 — Sunderland H
Oct 15 — West Ham A
Oct 22 — Q.P.R. A
Oct 29 — Luton H
Nov 5 — Everton H
Nov 12 — Tottenham A
Nov 19 — Stoke H
Nov 26 — Ipswich A
Dec 3 — Birmingham H
Dec 10 — Coventry A
Dec 17 — Notts County H
Dec 26 — West Brom A
Dec 27 — Leicester H
Dec 31 — Nott'm Forest A
Jan 2 — Man. United H



Ian Rush... Liverpool and Wales ace striker

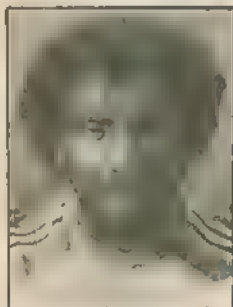
LIVERPOOL Division 1

Jan 14 — Wolves H
Jan 21 — Aston Villa A
Jan 28 — Watford H
Feb 4 — Sunderland A
Feb 11 — Arsenal H
Feb 18 — Luton A
Feb 25 — Q.P.R. H
Mar 3 — Everton A
Mar 10 — Tottenham H
Mar 17 — Southampton A
Mar 24 — Norwich H
Mar 31 — Watford A
Apr 7 — West Ham H
Apr 14 — Stoke A
Apr 21 — West Brom H
Apr 24 — Leicester A
Apr 28 — Ipswich H
May 5 — Birmingham A
May 7 — Coventry H
May 12 — Notts County A

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Oct 15 — EvertonA
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Nov 12 — BirminghamH
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Dec 3 — CoventryH
Dec 10 — StokeA
Dec 17 — West BromH
Dec 26 — Notts CountyA
Dec 27 — West HamH
Dec 31 — SunderlandA
Jan 2 — Nott'm F.H
Jan 14 — ArsenalH
Jan 21 — WolvesA
Jan 28 — IpswichH
Feb 4 — Aston VillaA
Feb 11 — Man. UnitedH



Ricky Hill ... Luton's talented England midfielder player.

LUTON Division 1

Feb 18 — LiverpoolH
Feb 25 — SouthamptonA
Mar 3 — Q.P.R.H
Mar 10 — BirminghamA
Mar 17 — NorwichA
Mar 24 — LeicesterH
Mar 31 — IpswichA
Apr 7 — EvertonH
Apr 14 — TottenhamA
Apr 20 — West HamA
Apr 21 — Notts CountyH
Apr 28 — WatfordH
May 5 — CoventryA
May 7 — StokeH
May 12 — West BromA

MAN CITY Division 2

Asa Hartford ... Man. City's experienced Scottish international.



Aug 27 — C. PalaceA
Sept 3 — BarnsleyH
Sept 7 — FulhamH
Sept 10 — PortsmouthA
Sept 17 — BlackburnH
Sept 24 — LeedsA
Sept 28 — CardiffA
Oct 1 — GrimsbyH
Oct 8 — SwanseaH
Oct 15 — CharltonA
Oct 22 — MiddlesbroughH
Oct 29 — NewcastleA
Nov 5 — ShrewsburyA
Nov 12 — BrightonH
Nov 19 — CarlisleA
Nov 26 — DerbyH
Dec 3 — ChelseaA
Dec 10 — Sheff Wed.H
Dec 17 — CambridgeA
Dec 26 — OldhamH
Dec 27 — HuddersfieldA
Dec 31 — BarnsleyA
Jan 2 — LeedsH
Jan 14 — C. PalaceH
Jan 21 — BlackburnA
Feb 4 — GrimsbyA
Feb 11 — PortsmouthH
Feb 18 — NewcastleH
Feb 25 — MiddlesbroughA
Mar 3 — ShrewsburyH
Mar 10 — BrightonA
Mar 17 — FulhamA
Mar 24 — CardiffH
Mar 31 — CharltonH
Apr 7 — SwanseaA
Apr 14 — CarlisleH
Apr 21 — OldhamA
Apr 23 — HuddersfieldH
Apr 28 — DerbyA
May 5 — ChelseaH
May 7 — Sheff Wed.A
May 12 — CambridgeH

Aug 27 — Q.P.R.H
Aug 29 — Nott'm F.H
Sept 3 — StokeA
Sept 6 — ArsenalA
Sept 10 — LutonH
Sept 17 — SouthamptonA
Sept 24 — LiverpoolH
Oct 1 — NorwichA
Oct 15 — West BromH
Oct 22 — SunderlandA
Oct 29 — WolvesH
Nov 5 — Aston VillaH
Nov 12 — LeicesterA
Nov 19 — WatfordH
Nov 26 — West HamA
Dec 3 — EvertonH
Dec 10 — IpswichA
Dec 17 — TottenhamH
Dec 26 — CoventryA
Dec 27 — Notts CountyH
Dec 31 — StokeH
Jan 2 — LiverpoolA
Jan 14 — Q.P.R.A



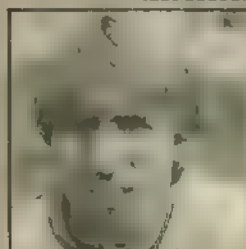
Mike Duxbury ... key Manchester United defender.

MAN UNITED Division 1

Jan 21 — SouthamptonH
Jan 28 — BirminghamA
Feb 4 — NorwichH
Feb 11 — LutonA
Feb 18 — WolvesH
Feb 25 — SunderlandH
Mar 3 — Aston VillaA
Mar 10 — LeicesterH
Mar 17 — ArsenalH
Mar 24 — Nott'm F.A
Mar 31 — West BromA
Apr 7 — BirminghamH
Apr 14 — WatfordA
Apr 21 — CoventryH
Apr 23 — Notts CountyA
Apr 28 — West HamH
May 5 — EvertonA
May 7 — IpswichH
May 12 — TottenhamA

MANSFIELD Division 4

John Dungworth ... Mansfield's top scorer last season.



Aug 27 — Bristol C.A
Sept 3 — DoncasterH
Sept 7 — StockportH
Sept 10 — HalifaxA
Sept 17 — TranmereH
Sept 24 — PeterboroughA
Sept 27 — BlackpoolA
Oct 1 — AldershotH
Oct 8 — BuryA
Oct 15 — TorquayH
Oct 19 — ReadingA
Oct 22 — HartlepoolH
Oct 29 — HerefordA
Nov 2 — RochdaleH
Nov 5 — WrexhamA
Nov 12 — ColchesterH
Nov 26 — SwindonH
Dec 3 — DarlingtonA
Dec 17 — NorthamptonA
Dec 26 — ChesterfieldH
Dec 27 — ChesterA
Dec 31 — CreweH
Jan 2 — YorkA
Jan 7 — DoncasterA
Jan 14 — Bristol C.H
Jan 21 — TranmereA
Jan 28 — HalifaxH
Feb 4 — AldershotH
Feb 11 — PeterboroughH
Feb 14 — RochdaleA
Feb 18 — HerefordH
Feb 25 — HartlepoolA
Mar 3 — ReadingH
Mar 7 — WrexhamH
Mar 10 — ColchesterA
Mar 17 — BuryH
Mar 24 — TorquayA
Mar 31 — BlackpoolH
Apr 7 — StockportA
Apr 14 — DarlingtonH
Apr 21 — ChesterfieldA
Apr 24 — ChesterH
Apr 28 — SwindonA
May 5 — YorkH
May 7 — CreweA
May 12 — NorthamptonH

Aug 27 — PortsmouthA
Sept 3 — LeedsH
Sept 6 — NewcastleH
Sept 10 — BarnsleyA
Sept 17 — GrimsbyH
Sept 24 — ChelseaA
Sept 27 — FulhamA
Oct 1 — C. PalaceH
Oct 8 — BlackburnH
Oct 15 — OldhamA
Oct 22 — Man. CityH
Oct 29 — ShrewsburyH
Nov 5 — CardiffH
Nov 12 — DerbyA
Nov 19 — CambridgeA
Nov 26 — SwanseaH
Dec 3 — CharltonA
Dec 10 — BrightonH
Dec 17 — HuddersfieldA
Dec 26 — CarlisleH
Dec 27 — Sheff Wed.A
Dec 31 — LeedsA
Jan 2 — ChelseaH



Tony Mowbray ... Middlesbrough central defender.

MIDDLESBRO' Division 2

Jan 14 — PortsmouthH
Jan 21 — GrimsbyA
Feb 4 — C. PalaceA
Feb 11 — BarnsleyH
Feb 18 — ShrewsburyA
Feb 25 — Man. CityH
Mar 3 — CardiffA
Mar 10 — DerbyH
Mar 17 — NewcastleA
Mar 24 — FulhamH
Mar 31 — OldhamH
Apr 7 — BlackburnA
Apr 14 — CambridgeH
Apr 21 — CarlisleA
Apr 23 — Sheff Wed.H
Apr 28 — SwanseaA
May 5 — CharltonH
May 7 — BrightonA
May 12 — HuddersfieldH

CUT OUT AND KEEP

by Anthony Hawkswell

DEREK Parlane has signed for the man who used to kick lumps out of him!

There was no love lost on the field between Derek and burly centre-half Billy McNeill when the two squared up to each other in the boiling cauldron of Celtic-Rangers derby matches.

Remembers Derek: "He was a very hard man to play against and we used to have some ding-dong battles. Those were the days when derby games meant something. Today the teams play each other three or four times a season and the occasion has lost a bit of its edge."

Now, after years of being on opposite sides of the divided city of Glasgow, he and Billy have teamed up South of the border at Maine Road.

The former Scottish international was one of Billy's



Maine Road boss Billy McNeill — had some ding-dong battles with Derek Parlane on the pitch.

GLASGOW GLADIATORS CALL A TRUCE

first signings when he took over as manager of relegated Manchester City.

Derek, who cost Leeds £200,000 from Rangers three years ago, joined City on a free transfer after looking set to return to Scotland with newly-promoted Premier Division side Hearts.

"I was on the point of agreeing terms with Hearts when I got a phone call from Billy. I was very surprised to hear from him

because although we'd played against each other on many occasions, we'd never actually met.

"I was very sorry to turn down Hearts manager Alex MacDonald and his assistant Sandy Jardine because they are good friends of mine and we played in the same team at Rangers.

"The move to Edinburgh did appeal to me because my wife is

keen to settle back in Scotland at some stage. Hearts were obviously very interested because on one occasion they kept me talking on the phone until one in the morning.

"I didn't really want to ring Alex and say no, but he was very good about it and wished me the best of luck.

"In the end, the prospect of playing for one of the biggest clubs in the country really excited me and I still feel I've got a couple more seasons in England left in me.

"Even though City have been through a hard time lately, the potential at Maine Road is phenomenal. They are a proud club who are determined to get back into the First Division."

Derek believes that the fact he and Billy are both newcomers to the club will help him settle in his new surroundings. He explains: "We're both on the same footing — we are starting afresh and that could be a good thing."

The former Scottish international — he was capped six times — has just returned from Hong Kong where he played for top club Bulova.

He says: "After a disappointing spell at Leeds, I needed to play regular first team football. My confidence had gone.

"At first I only went there for three months but that was

Left: New Manchester City striker Derek Parlane — he was on the verge of returning to Scotland.

extended to six because I did well out there," says Derek, who scored 20 goals in 30 games in the Orient.

The striker made just 49 League appearances and scored 10 goals at Leeds. He admits: "I didn't do as well as I could at Elland Road. My stay there was disappointing.

"It wasn't anyone's fault and although it's easy to make excuses, I was very unlucky with injuries. I was out for a long time following an ankle operation."

Derek realised he didn't figure in new manager Eddie Gray's plans when Terry Connor and Ian Butterworth took the striking positions in the pre-season friendlies.

He says: "I played just once in a four-games tour in Scotland. It was obvious he wanted to build a side without me.

"I was feeling down so when the Hong Kong offer came up I was glad to go. I had nothing to lose because I was only going for three months. I could have stood it for that time even if I hadn't liked it.

"But the standard out there was very good and Bulova won two of the four competitions we played in," says Derek, who has signed a two-year contract at Maine Road.

"Teams were allowed six European players in each side and we had stars like former Manchester City winger Tommy Hutchison, Barry Daines, Alan Dugdale and Barry Powell in our team."

Derek had to live in a one-bedroom flat with his wife and two children but he says: "Even though the accommodation wasn't ideal I thoroughly enjoyed my spell out there.

"Hong Kong is an amazing place. I've never seen so many people crammed into such a small area," adds Derek.

The 30-year-old has no plans to return, but he says: "I made a good impression out there so at least I know that if I decided to go back, I'd be in demand."





John Wark (Ipswich) — scored more League goals over the past three seasons than any other player who will grace the First Division next season.

JOIN reporter Melvyn Beck on the goal trail . . . and discover some surprising facts.

IPSWICH Town's John Wark is the First Division's shooting star.

Forget those expensive strikers, it's the Scottish midfield ace who has scored the most goals over the past three seasons.

With 56 in the League to his credit, he goes into the new campaign having scored more goals during that period than any other goalscorer who'll be operating on the First Division circuit.

The 25-year-old, whose only cost to Ipswich was his soccer upbringing through the youth ranks, has averaged one goal every 196 minutes over those three seasons.

Only ten of the goals came from the penalty spot, so he boasts an impressive return for a player whose job is to create as well as score.

John, renowned for his ghost-like forays into the danger zone from deep positions, has been Ipswich Town's top scorer in two of the past three seasons.

Last season he pocketed twenty League goals, and not one of them



IT'S A WARK

TOP 40

Player	Lg. apps.	Lg. goals	Average mins. play per goal
1 Charlie Nicholas (Arsenal)	68	48	127.50
2 Gary Lineker (Leicester)	85	45	170.00
3 Brian Stein (Luton)	104	54	173.33
4 Ian Rush (Liverpool)	79	41	173.41
5 Alan Brazil (Tottenham)	110	55	180.00
6 John Deehan (Norwich)	69	32	194.06
7 John Wark (Ipswich)	122	56	196.07
8 Steve Moran (Southampton)	84	37	204.32
9 Peter Withe (Aston Villa)	106	46	207.39
10 Graeme Sharp (Everton)	68	29	211.03
11 Gary Shaw (Aston Villa)	105	44	214.77
12 Clive Allen (QPR)	84	35	216.00
13 Tony Woodcock (Arsenal)	34	14	218.57
14 Mike Ferguson (Birmingham)	30	12	225.00
15 Garth Crooks (Tottenham)	93	37	226.21
16 Cyrille Regis (West Brom)	101	40	227.25
17 Trevor Christie (Notts County)	92	36	230.00
18 Gary Rowell (Sunderland)	90	35	231.42
19 Steve Archibald (Tottenham)	97	37	235.94
20 Dave Bamber (Coventry)	75	28	241.07
21 Alan Smith (Leicester)	35	13	242.30
22 Paul Goddard (West Ham)	114	42	244.28
23 Mick Harford (Birmingham)	110	40	247.50
24 Paul Mariner (Ipswich)	98	34	259.41
25 Simon Stainrod (QPR)	101	35	259.71
26 Tony Sealy (QPR)	52	18	260.00
27 Danny Wallace (Southampton)	35	12	262.50
28 Justin Fashanu (Notts County)	95	32	267.18
29 Steve Whitton (West Ham)	63	21	270.00
30 Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool)	118	39	272.30
31 Iain McCulloch (Notts County)	112	37	272.43
32 Frank Stapleton (Man. United)	82	27	273.33
33 Paul Walsh (Luton)	119	37	289.45
34 John Barnes (Watford)	77	23	301.30
35 Mel Eves (Wolves)	101	30	303.00
36 Garry Thompson (West Brom)	99	29	307.24
37 Ian Wallace (Nott'm Forest)	106	31	307.74
38 Andy Gray (Wolves)	86	24	322.50
39 Dave Swindlehurst (West Ham)	106	28	340.71
40 Garry Birtles (Nott'm Forest)	91	24	341.25

The table above shows the 40 players with the best goalscoring averages over the past three seasons (only players who will be in First Division action next season included).

John is top of the scoring charts

was a penalty.

He's scored one more goal, over the three years, than his former Ipswich compatriot Alan Brazil, now with Tottenham, and two more than Luton's Brian Stein.

Both those players claim a better average than John who played more games — he's missed just four League games in three seasons — but in contrast, both are out and out front men.

Scottish striker Alan Brazil, who hopes to set White Hart Lane alight next term, has averaged a goal every two games, while Luton's Brian Stein has a slightly better average with one every 173 minutes.

Brian, who missed half of last season through injury, still managed 15 goals in twenty games in his first taste of First Division football.

But it's First Division new boy Charlie Nicholas who'll have the biggest reputation to live up to when he starts his career with Arsenal.

The big-money striker comes down from Glasgow with an eye-catching record of 48 goals in just 68 Scottish Premier Division matches during the past three seasons . . . and he missed most of the 1981-82 season with a broken leg.

He has an average of one goal every 127 minutes, and, if he can maintain that kind of record in the

TOP TEN GOALSCORERS

1 John Wark (Ipswich)	56
2 Alan Brazil (Tottenham)	55
3 Brian Stein (Luton) ...	54
4 Charlie Nicholas (Arsenal)	48
5 Peter Withe (Aston Villa)	46
6 Gary Lineker (Leicester)	45
7 Gary Shaw (Aston Villa)	44
8 Paul Goddard (West Ham)	42
9 Ian Rush (Liverpool)	41
10 Cyrille Regis (West Brom)	40
10 Mick Harford (Birmingham)	40

The table above shows the top ten League goalscorers over the past three seasons (only players who will be in First Division action next season included).

First Division, then Arsenal will have made one of the biggest scoops of modern times.

Leicester's Gary Lineker, who faces his first full season among the 'big boys', boasts 45 goals in



Goal! Gary Shaw of Aston Villa heads home against Watford.

Left: Charlie Nicholas of Arsenal — top of the averages.

-OVER!

85 games with Liverpool's Ian Rush in fourth spot on the 173 minute mark.

Welsh striker Rush has 41 First Division goals from 79 outings, all the goals coming in the past two seasons when he spearheaded the Champions' strike force.

But his chief aide, Scottish star Kenny Dalglish, is well down the list, averaging a goal every 272 minutes over the past three seasons.

It's the Aston Villa pair of Peter Withe and Gary Shaw who have proved to be the most profitable duo over that period.

They scored 90 goals between them, with Peter averaging a goal every 207 minutes and Gary close behind.

After Gary Lineker, the next best goalscorer coming up from Division Two is Queen's Park Rangers' Clive Allen — even though he was out of the limelight last season when the London side achieved their Championship success.

He's scored 35 goals in 84 games to put him among the top dozen.

But most of the big names are well down the scoring stakes... including £1 million men Justin Fashanu, Ian Wallace, Garry Birtles and Andy Gray.

Of that expensive quartet, Notts County's Justin is the only one with an average under 300 minutes per goal.

And Manchester United's Frank Stapleton, regarded by many knowledgeable observers as one of the best strikers around, has managed only 27 goals in 82 games — an average of one every 273 minutes.



Leicester's Gary Lineker — boasts 45 goals in 85 games and, on average, is second only to Charlie Nicholas.

NEXT

WEEK



THE NEW

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IN COLOUR

SEAGULLS

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Brian Clough by Lawrie McMenemy . . . with apologies to the Archangel Gabriel! Discover how the 'Saints' boss sees his managerial rival.

All this and much more in 'Match' — the magazine that's FIRST with the best stories and pictures.



PAT BONNER

Celtic and Eire

FULL NAME: Patrick Bonner.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Donegal, Eire/May 5, 1960.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 6ft 2ins/13st 6lbs.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: Capri 1.6LS.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: None.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.
NICKNAME AT CLUB: 'Packy' ... short for Patrick.
WORST EVER INJURY: Nothing major.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: England's Peter Shilton — I wish I was like him — the best in the world.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Arsenal.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Italy's Paolo Rossi for his goals in the World Cup.
BEST CURRENT BRITISH TEAM: Shilton (England), Lawrenson (Eire), Miller (Scotland), O'Leary (Eire), Gray F., Strachan, Souness (Scotland), Robson (England), Burns I., Nicholas, Dalglish (Scotland).
CURRENT INTERNATIONAL XI: Shilton, Lawrenson, Gentile (Italy), Pasarelle (Argentina), Junior (Brazil), Maradona (Argentina), Brady (Eire), Falcao (Brazil), Rossi (Italy), Dalglish, Zico (Brazil).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Ibrox.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Giants Stadium, New York.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: By Charlie Nicholas against Ajax, last season.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Charlie Nicholas in training!
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Against Ajax, European Cup last season.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: My debuts for Celtic and Eire.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing the League Championship last season.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf and swimming.
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Golf, sleep and winning.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Leaving for home after a holiday and losing.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Russ Abbot's Madhouse.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Coronation Street.
FAVOURITE READING: Books by Stephen King.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: David Bowie.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Any seafood.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Lager shandy.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: America.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Charles Bronson/Bette Davis.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: An Officer and a Gentleman.
BEST FRIEND: My girlfriend Anna and my family.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My family, ex-Celtic coach Frank O'Connor and the present staff at the club.
SUPERSTITIONS: None.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Fish and eggs.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Eire Under 21 and full caps.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win something in Europe with Eire and Celtic.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Don't know yet.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Celtic reserve Jim McNally.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET?: Pope John Paul II.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Always listen, think and work very hard.

Patrick Bonner